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Police kill two car thieves from territories

Another suspect arrested after chase in Pardess Hanna area

DAVID RUDGE

POLICE shot and killed two suspected car thieves from the territories yesterday in Pardess Hanna, after one tried to run over a policeman and the second drew a gun.

A third suspect was later caught, after he had tried to steal another car.

A Civil Guard officer was lightly injured in one of the incidents and was admitted to Hillel Yaffe Hospital in Hadera.

Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz praised the courage and quick thinking of the police officers involved in the case.

He noted that initial inquiries had shown that the officers were justified in shooting at the suspects, in view of the suspects' behavior.

"We are talking about a gang of car thieves that we have been seeking for a long time," Hefetz told reporters yesterday. "These are car thieves that have no qualms about attacking police officers and the extent of this phenomenon had gotten very serious."

He stressed, however, that car thefts were on the rise, and that not just Arabs, but Jews, were heavily involved in stealing cars and disposing of them.

Police believe the suspects who were shot were part of a gang of thieves stealing cars and taking them to the territories, where they were dismantled for their parts.

The possibility that some of the stolen vehicles might have been handed over to terrorists for use in attacks is also being investigated.

"It's very unusual to find car thieves carrying weapons," said police spokesman Eric Bar-Chen.

One of the suspects who was killed was wanted by police in connection with burglaries and car thefts, and had been banned from crossing the Green Line into Israel.

He was identified as Salah Mahadawi, 20, from the village of Shweikeh, near Nablus. The other suspect killed in the incident was Sakr Kapani, aged 24, of Nazaleh Sharkiyeh, near Tulkarm.

The drama actually began several weeks ago following a spate of break-ins at homes in the Hadera and Pardess Hanna region. In virtually all of the cases, the thieves stole car keys and other property and drove away in the vehicles of the householders.

In one such incident two weeks ago, police chased three suspects, one of whom was caught. He is believed to have been connected with those involved in yesterday's incident.

As a result of these earlier incidents, special police patrols and checkpoints were established in the Pardess Hanna and Hadera areas.

Haifa police spokeswoman Supt. Sarina Yehuda said that around 3:20 yesterday morning, police were informed that two cars had been stolen from outside a home in Pardess Hanna.

One of the vehicles, approached a police roadblock and tried to run down Civil Guard volunteer Tal Cohen.

He was struck in the leg by the vehicle while being pulled clear by Sgt. Danny Markovitz, but managed to fire two shots at the vehicle.

The shots apparently fatally wounded the driver and the car crashed several hundred meters down the road. The passenger inside got out and fled.

Meanwhile detectives stopped the other suspected stolen vehicle nearby. Yehuda said the driver pulled out a pistol and shouted at the police officer that he was from Gaza. The detective, Tamir Sha'ar, pulled his pistol and shot first, fatally wounding the suspect, who later died in the Hillel Yaffe hospital.

Both cars had been stolen from outside the home of the Izokovitz family in Pardess Hanna, along with other property, including a television and video equipment. One car belonged to the family and the other to friends visiting from the Negev.

Yehuda said that the third suspect, who had fled from the crashed Subaru, leaving Salah Mahadawi dead at the wheel, managed to reach nearby Karkur village.

There he broke into the home of the Aharoni family, stole the keys of their car and was trying to drive away when a member of the family jumped on the car and the suspect lost control, crashing the car into an electricity pole. Members of the family subdued the suspect and held him until police arrived.

Yehuda said the third suspect, aged 35, was also a resident of Nazaleh Sharkiyeh. He was arrested and was being questioned about the various aspects of the case.

Itim contributed to this report.



Actress Jane Fonda addresses the UN Population Conference in Cairo yesterday. (Reuter)

Vatican delays accord at UN population parley

CAIRO (Reuter) – A UN population conference deferred the vexed issue of abortion yesterday but the debate remained firmly on the agenda after the Vatican reiterated the hardline Catholic stance blocking the latest compromise.

Archbishop Renato Martino, the Holy See's envoy to the United Nations, put to rest any hopes that the Vatican would water down its objections to a proposed draft on abortion and heed a US plea not to hold up agreement.

"The Church's position on responsible parenthood is well known, even though at times it is misunderstood," he told the conference in a speech. "Some here might consider it too demanding for today's man and woman. But no way of fostering the deepest respect for human life and the process of its transmission is going to be an easy one. Responsibility brings burdens. Responsibility demands discipline and self-restraint," he said to loud applause in the auditorium.

The Vatican is facing a virtual revolt by liberal nations keen to get on with drafting a global program for slowing population growth over the next 20 years.

The United States, Britain and Egypt urged the Vatican to state its reservations to the draft if it wished, rather than block agreement.

"Let's hope today either they state what their problems are and take reservations or join the consensus," Timothy Wirth, head of the US delegation to the UN International Conference on Population and Development, told reporters.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who faces accusations by Islamists that the forum is a ploy by the West to impose its own morals on the Moslem world, said:

"If they are asking us to be flexible on an issue such as abortion, we have to explain our reasons for not accepting it. If no consensus is reached on this particular issue we can simply voice our reservations," Mubarak said.

The advice was repeated by British Minister for Overseas Development Baroness Lynda Chalker, who said most delegates were convinced the Vatican would dissent from any section on abortion.

The Vatican, backed by other Catholic states, has held up agreement on the abortion section of a draft declaration which took three years to prepare.

Many delegates say abortion has distracted them from other issues, and note that consensus has been achieved on all but 10 percent of the document.

Egyptian Population Minister Maher Mahran, in an outspoken outburst at a news conference, said the Vatican should bow to the will of states representing more than five billion people.

"Does the Vatican rule the world? If the Vatican rules the world, if the world is one country and the Vatican is the boss, then fair enough. But we are equal partners," he said.

Palestinian Police crack down on Islamic Jihad

JON IMMANUEL and ALON PINKAS

PALESTINIAN Police arrested 47 Islamic Jihad activists over the past three days, in response to Sunday's attack on an IDF patrol which killed one soldier and wounded two.

Palestinian opposition groups, from left-wingers to religious fundamentalists, issued leaflets in response to the arrests, accusing the Palestinian Authority of acting "like the Israeli occupation."

Chief among those arrested was Abdullah Shami, 40, the Islamic Jihad spokesman for those deported to southern Lebanon last year. At least five of those arrested were former deportees. Most were street activists.

The PLO crackdown, which followed the attack Sunday night near the Morag junction in the Gaza Strip, is a step in the right direction as far as the Palestinian Authority's policy against terror is concerned, senior army sources said last night.

"This crackdown is a definite step in the right direction, but consistency and time will eventually judge its effectiveness," said a Southern Command source. The source said that despite Israeli criticism of the Palestinian Police, there are objective difficulties impeding action.

"Since 1987, the IDF has not succeeded in halting fundamentalist terrorism. To ask the PLO, with its political problems of asserting authority and gaining legitimacy in Gaza, to just step in and solve the problem was unrealistic. This crackdown is thus an important move, which I hope will mark a new policy," he said.

The crackdown also followed the arrest of an Islamic Jihad member who escaped to Khan Yunis, after being wounded while fleeing by car from the scene of the attack.

Meanwhile, 17-year-old Ahmed Abu Obeid, was arrested yesterday while passing out Islamic Jihad leaflets near Khan Yunis, in which the group vowed to continue the armed struggle in defiance of the police crackdown.

A Hamas leaflet issued in response to the arrests said they "reminded us of the Israeli occupation. They will never make us kneel."

The leaflet was similar to one distributed by Islamic Jihad in response to the Hamas arrests last month, which warned that "we will be obliged to escalate our military jihad in the Gaza Strip beyond anything yet seen."

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat told Meretz MK Dedi Zucker last week that Islamic Jihad was also responsible for the murder of two Israelis at a building site in Ramle two weeks ago, though Hamas had claimed responsibility.

Politically it is easier for Arafat to crack down on Islamic Jihad – supported by only some 3 percent of Gazans – than on Hamas, the main opposition. Islamic Jihad is a much smaller group than Hamas, from which Arafat is attempting to win a measure of cooperation by showing he is not a servant of the Israeli authorities.

An example of this was seen yesterday, when Arafat awarded a Hamas activist, Imad Faluji, a license to establish a daily newspaper, to be called *Al-Watan*. By contrast, Israel recently closed *Al-Bayan*, a Jerusalem bimonthly, claiming it was connected to Hamas.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Monday that the Palestinian Authority is not doing enough to stop terrorism, and that inaction could jeopardize further implementation of the Cairo agreement.

Rabin, who spoke before the Palestinian Police began their crackdown on Islamic Jihad activists, met on Monday with James Speth, the head of the UN Development Programs agency.

Rabin emphasized the Palestinian Authority's economic difficulties and commended UNDP for its activities in the territories. UNDP has asked Israel's assistance in soliciting international financing for its programs in the territories.

In a separate series of arrests, Palestinian Police arrested five members of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine last weekend. The DFLP called the arrests of its own members and the Islamic opposition a provocation.

"Yesterday we were demanding the release of prisoners [held by Israel] ignored by the Cairo agreement. Today we are asking for the release of autonomy prisoners," the DFLP said.

Five people killed in holiday road accidents

FIVE people were killed and seven injured, four seriously, in road accidents over the holiday.

Moshe Suissa, 36, suffered fatal burns when his motorcycle hit a car in Jaffa Monday evening, just after the holiday began. The bike went up in flames as the result of the collision, and Suissa was burned over nearly all of his body. He died at Ichilov Hospital. Police are still investigating the cause of the accident.

A Romanian construction worker was killed Tuesday evening when he was hit by a car near the Hadera power station. His name was not released, pending notification of his family.

A couple and their son were killed in an accident Tuesday on the Trans-Samaria highway, between Salfit and the Tapuah junction.

Another son, a newly-licensed driver, apparently lost control of the car on a curve and hit a large rock, and his parents and brother were killed instantly. The driver was seriously injured and hospitalized.

Lior Azualos, 4, of Tiberias, was seriously injured in a hit-and-run accident that occurred Tuesday afternoon on the city's King David Street. Police are asking anyone who may have witnessed the accident to call the nearest police station to give evidence.

Five people were injured yesterday, two seriously, in an accident near the Ben-Shemen Forest. A woman apparently swerved right suddenly and hit a car in the adjacent lane. The seriously injured were taken to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer, while the other three, who had suffered moderate and light injuries, were taken to Assaf Harofeh Hospital in Tzrifin. (Itim)



World Bank Vice President Caio Koch Weser shakes hands with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, after signing a $30-million loan for projects in Gaza and Jericho. To the right is Palestinian Authority Finance Minister Mohammed Nashashibi. (Story, Page 2) (Reuter)

Eight arrested for helping in deadly shootings on Israelis

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE General Security Service and the IDF this week uncovered a gang of Hamas members who helped terrorists carry out several attacks, including shooting incidents in the Hebron region in which three Israelis were killed.

The eight arrested belonged to a gang headed by two of the most sought-after terrorists left in Judea, Jihad Julami and Taher Katishe. The two escaped from Dahariya prison last November, hooking up with other Hamas fugitives, and drafted the eight into the gang.

Two of those arrested are suspected of being involved in the attempted kidnaping of Yehuda Rotner of Alon Shvut on August 24. They offered Rotner a ride to Jerusalem, which he accepted, but then jumped out of the car when he grew suspicious. The two drove a car with Israeli license plates.

The terrorists who were arrested were mainly in charge of stealing Israeli cars for use by terrorists in shooting incidents and as getaway cars.

They are also accused of helping arrange the May 17 shooting at an Israeli car near Beit Haggai, in which Rafael Yairi of Kiryat Arba and Margalit Shohat of Ma'aleh Levona were killed, and in which a girl was wounded. They are also believed to have helped facilitate the July 7 attack on a car belonging to the Prigal family of Kiryat Arba, in which Sarit Prigal was killed and her father and brother wounded.

Those who actually carried out the attacks are still being sought by the security forces.

UN suspends aid flights to Sarajevo, denies it told Pope to stay away

SARAJEVO (AP) – A day after Pope John Paul II was forced to cancel his visit to Sarajevo for security reasons, each side in the long, bloody conflict blamed the other for the diplomatic fiasco.

The United Nations suggested that the Bosnian Serbs were to blame for the pope's decision, but Bosnian government and Roman Catholic Church officials faulted the United Nations, leveling particular venom at its special envoy, Yasushi Akashi.

For their part, the mostly Eastern Orthodox Serbs had predicted they would be held responsible for anything that affected the pope's planned visit to the besieged capital, regardless of who did it.

The cancellation was a bitter disappointment for Sarajevans, especially the city's 30,000 Roman Catholic Croats. The Moslem-led Bosnian government also endorsed the visit as a sign of solidarity.

The pope, speaking yesterday in Rome, said he still intended to visit Sarajevo, when security could be guaranteed, as a "messenger of hope for the martyred population."

Prior to the pope's decision, the area around Sarajevo's airport was rocked by increasing gunfire. Aid flights were suspended yesterday after two aircraft were hit in two days as Serbs and government troops exchanged gunfire.

Bosnian Serbs also flagrantly violated Sarajevo's heavy weapons exclusion zone, firing 11 artillery rounds inside the zone Tuesday. Despite a NATO air strike August 5 for a less serious exclusion zone violation, UN officials said there were no plans for retaliation.

Spokeswoman Claire Grimes said the United Nations was "deeply saddened" by the pope's decision, but that it was a "forcible reminder that no progress had been made" toward ending the fighting.

She denied that Akashi had specifically urged the pope to cancel his visit. "We made the dangers very clear," she said. When asked whether Serb security guarantees would have made a difference, she replied, "absolutely."

The cancellation again focused anger at the United Nations, which many Sarajevans regard as an impotent force doing more harm than good.

"Akashi should be tried as the worst criminal," said resident Franjo Cvitanovic, in a telephone survey by the daily *Oslobodjenje* newspaper.

Monsignor Vinko Puljic, leader of Bosnia's Roman Catholics, told reporters, "Akashi's letter... decided whether the pope would come."

Bosnia's bishops, in a statement, said the pope's cancellation "draws the world's attention to the entire tragedy of this town and all of Bosnia-Herzegovina – tragedy accompanied by unbelievable indifference to the suffering of innocent people."

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World Bank signs $30m loan for self-rule projects

JON IMMANUEL and news agencies

IN advance of today's important meeting of donor countries in Paris, the World Bank yesterday signed a $30-million loan agreement in Gaza for infrastructure projects in Gaza and Jericho.

The agreement, signed in Gaza by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and World Bank Vice-President Caio Koch Weser, had been expected to boost the Paris meeting.

Palestinian Authority Finance Minister Mohammed Nashashibi told reporters "the $30 million agreement signed is for badly needed projects including sewage, schools, roads, water and energy."

Ahmad Qreia, the Palestinian Authority's Trade and Economics Minister, said that donor countries originally pledged $128 million in rojects in 1994, *Al-Quds* reported.

In Paris, donor countries are expected to decide to release some $30 million a month for ongoing expenses and projects.

Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories Maj.-Gen. Danny Rothschild and Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir will represent Israel in the three-day summit.

Donor states pledged $2.4 billion in a Washington conference last October, but have made it contingent on Palestinians establishing clear accounting procedures and a taxation system. Agreement was reached at a conference in Washington last week, attended by Israeli and Palestinian representatives, that funds would be channeled to the Authority monthly and the Authority would set up a tax system within six months.

Alon Pinkas contributed to this report.



Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Ehud Barak (center) gets a briefing from officers Monday at the Morag Junction, the site of Sunday's terrorist attack on an IDF patrol. (Yossi Cohen/IDF Spokesman)

Golan settlers: Gov't has already has agreed to large-scale withdrawal

DAVID RUDGE

THE government has agreed in principle to a withdrawal from large tracts of the Golan and the dismantling of 25 settlements within a short space of time, the Golan Settlers Committee charged last night.

The committee announced that this phase would be followed within three years by a withdrawal from the remainder of the Golan, and the uprooting of seven more settlements including Katzrin and those on Mt. Hermon.

A government spokesman last night flatly denied the reports, according to Channel One.

The committee, which held an emergency meeting in Katzrin last night, said these were the basic terms that had been agreed to by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the government in public and secret talks with the Syrians.

A statement issued after the meeting said the information about the alleged deal had been compiled from a wide range of sources, including those in the Prime Minister's Office, the Foreign Ministry, and the Defense Ministry, as well as from senior US sources and those in Arab countries involved in mediating the talks.

The statement said that according to these sources, negotiations between Israel and Syria were in a very advanced stage and that a breakthrough in the talks was expected very soon.

"We are convinced that the information we have received is accurate and we are acting accordingly," Uri Heitner, spokesman for the Golan Settlers committee, told *The Jerusalem Post* last night after their emergency meeting.

He said the committee had decided to implement contingency plans for a more intense and hard-hitting protest campaign, details of which would be unveiled at a planned mass meeting of all Golan residents in Katzrin Park next Saturday night.

Labor MK Avigdor Kahalani, head of the Golan lobby in the Knesset, is slated to participate in that meeting.

"Our battle will be determined, uncompromising and stubborn and we are convinced that it will end in a victory for us and the retention of the Golan under Israeli sovereignty," said Heitner.

"We intend to take harsh but non-violent measures in the coming days that will shake the government and the Israeli public," he said.

Heitner added that the aim of the proposed campaign was to prevent the government from taking "grave and irreparable steps behind the backs of the public and the Knesset."

IDF soldier killed in Morag attack buried

ALON PINKAS

SGT. Victor Shichman, 24, killed in the Morag junction attack Sunday night, was buried Monday in Nazereth Illit.

Shichman, whose family came from the former Soviet Union four years ago, was survived by his father, David, an engineer, his mother, Ludmilla, a doctor, and a sister, Ilana. Shichman, an artillery corps soldier, was eulogized by Deputy Education Minister Micha Goldman, Nazareth Illit Mayor Menahem Ariav, and the chief artillery corps officer.

Shichman was killed Sunday night at the Morag junction in the southern Gaza Strip, when an IDF foot patrol was shot at from a speeding car bearing Palestinian license plates. After the attack, the car fled to Khan Yunis.

According to a preliminary army investigation, Palestinian Police forces who witnessed the attack began shooting at what they thought were the assailants, but apparently also hit Shichman and fatally wounded him, and possibly wounded the two other soldiers.

The Palestinian Police on Monday denied that they had shot at the IDF soldiers, saying they shot at the attackers who fled directly towards a Palestinian Police post. They confirmed that they pursued the attackers into Khan Yunis.

On Monday, the Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack, a statement that was followed by a Palestinian Police crackdown on the organization's activists.

Two other soldiers were wounded in the attack. Ophir Marani from Kibbutz Mishmar David, who suffered shrapnel wounds in the back, was released from Soroka Hospital on Monday evening. Yitzhak Matutov, of Tel Aviv, was listed in satisfactory condition with arm, leg and knee wounds.

Syria: Israel thwarting peace process

DAMASCUS (AP) – Syria said yesterday that Israel's rejection of resuming peace negotiations with it in Washington was aimed at forcing Damascus into "secret talks which would only yield partial and phased deals."

"Foiling the Washington peace negotiations and steering them away from their path and targets was, and is still, Israel's foremost concern," the government-run *Tishrin* daily said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was quoted Monday as saying he had rejected a US offer to restart direct talks with Syria, which have been stalled since February.

Rabin, in an interview with *Yedioth Aharonoth*, said he told US Secretary of State Warren Christopher that resuming the talks was "not a good idea."

Rabin was quoted as saying the Syrians "would immediately raise the demand for an Israeli agreement to a complete withdrawal" from the Golan Heights "and there would be a freeze."

Tishrin said Rabin's "outspoken rejection" was part of Israel's strategy of undermining the aims of the 1991 Madrid conference and splitting the Arab parties into individual negotiations rather than the envisaged comprehensive settlement.

Israel wants to "replace the Washington talks with unilateral and secret talks, which would only yield partial and phased deals," *Tishrin* declared.

It stressed that Syria, "which is fully aware of Israel's misleading and procrastinating methods, still adheres to the just and comprehensive solution and will never be dragged into Israel's plans and unilateral deals."

Meanwhile, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara told reporters in London Tuesday that Syria "would like to see much more seriousness from the Israeli side, less contradiction in their statements, more clarity in talking openly about the full withdrawal."

After talks with Shara, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Syria sought a successful conclusion of the three-year-old talks, adding: "We strongly support that and we hope it will not be long."

Abu Mazen due to arrive in Gaza next week

JON IMMANUEL

MAHMOUD Abbas, (Abu Mazen), the chief Palestinian architect of the Oslo accords, is expected to arrive in Gaza within the week, but will not take a post in the Palestinian Authority since he is in charge of preparing for final phase negotiations with Israel, Palestinian sources say.

Abbas, together with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, signed the PLO-Israel peace agreement on the White House lawn last September 13.

Palestinian sources say Abbas will not spend most of his time in Gaza, but will remain based in Tunis.

Abbas is PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's chief deputy, but together with Farouk Khadoumi, who is known to be hostile to the peace accords, Abbas maintains an office in Tunis.

According to *Reuter in Tunis*, Abbas leaves today via Amman for a two-week stay which will include a visit to his hometown of Safed. He will return to Tunis after the visit but eventually take up residence in the Palestinian areas, according to PLO sources there.

Army source: Edri may be tip of iceberg

ALON PINKAS and HERB KEINON

A NEW Jewish underground may have been in the making, a very senior army source said Monday.

He was referring to evidence gathered following the arrest of Lt. Oren Edri, who was arrested Sunday along with two other Kiryat Arba residents on suspicion of selling stolen army weapons to a Jewish extremist group, for use in attacks against Arabs.

The source said that what has been revealed may be "just the tip of the iceberg," but added that Edri's involvement was apparently limited to logistical assistance to the group, rather than in the planning of operations.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Monday that he does not think that the arrests and the information gathered point to the formation of an underground, but only to a group of extremists in a rudimentary phase of organization.

The High Court of Justice is scheduled this morning to hear a petition demanding that the police and General Security Service allow a meeting between Edri and his lawyer, Tel Aviv attorney Tzion Amir.

Edri was remanded Sunday by the Haifa Magistrate's Court for eight days, and since his arrest has not been allowed to meet his lawyer.

The two other suspects, whose names have been barred from publication for "security reasons," have also not yet met with their lawyer, Likud MK David Mena.

"It is inconceivable that in a democratic society someone accused of a crime, no matter what the crime is, can be prevented from receiving legal advice from his lawyer," Amir said. "I maintain that this is anti-democratic, and is intended to break my client."

Rabin fears Hizbullah may get Stinger missiles

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin said over the holiday that he feared Hizbullah terrorists might eventually get Stinger missiles from Afghanistan, in addition to the weapons and funds they are already getting from Iran.

Speaking in a special holiday interview with Israel Radio on Tuesday morning, Rabin spent several minutes discussing the situation in Lebanon.

"Out problem is how to deal with terrorism," he said. "We had illusions that there could be a war that would end all wars, that there is a campaign that would eliminate terror once and for all.

"We tried this in Lebanon and in fact the Palestinian element received a heavy blow, but it was replaced by a Lebanese terrorist element – Hizbullah and other Lebanese groups whose attacks are more serious than those of the Palestinians in the past.

"They have help from Iran, weapons and money, Saggers, mortars, and Strella shoulder-held missiles. I hope that they will not also get Stinger missiles from Afghanistan," he said.

What especially worries him, he said, is "the ugly wave of Khomeinism without Khomeini, the ugly wave of Islamic extremism and terrorism that has enveloped many Arab and Islamic states without any connection to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

He said that Iran was bankrolling Islamic extremists throughout the world, and making an effort to supply them with conventional and non-conventional weapons, which in the medium and long term could pose a serious international threat.

He criticized Japan and European countries for trading with Iran "out of their own economic interests," and said China and Russia were helping Iran build nuclear reactors. (Itim)

Voice of the South radio: Lebanese forces see Syria as an occupation force

DAVID RUDGE

THE Lebanese Forces militia, disbanded and disarmed as part of the new order in Lebanon, has annulled recognition of the Taif accord and intends to carry out "resistance activities" to defend the interests of the country's Christian community.

According to a report on the Voice of the South radio, which broadcasts from the security zone, the Lebanese Forces – once the most powerful of all Lebanon's militias during the country's 16 year-long civil war – had been taken over by a new joint leadership which viewed Syria's presence as that of an occupation force.

The radio station said it had not been able to verify the information which had been received in the form of a statement signed by the Lebanese Forces command council.

The statement, broadcast by the radio station, said that the joint council had taken over from Samir Geagea, who had been temporarily removed from his post. Geagea himself was arrested by the Lebanese authorities several weeks ago on suspicion of involvement in the bombing of a church earlier this year.

According to the Voice of the South report, the statement said the command council did not recognize the decision to shut down the Lebanese Forces and the latter would resume "resistance activities" to protect the Christian community's interests.

Some Lebanese newspapers printed the reported announcement, although the reaction was very muted. Only one newspaper, *Al-Liwa*, commented on the report saying that if the announcement was correct, the new Lebanese Forces command council had brought together the right-wing Guardians of the Cedars organization with supporters of ousted former Lebanese Army Commander Gen. Michel Aoun, who fought an unsuccessful battle against pro-Syrian elements that split Lebanon's Christian community and ended with the Syrians in control.

Al-Liwa described the reported shake-up of the Lebanese Forces as an Israeli ploy.

Lebanon slams Rabin comment on permanent Syrian presence

BEIRUT (AP) – Foreign Minister Faris Bweiz has denounced comments by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that Israel will not rule out a Syrian military presence in Lebanon as part of a peace settlement.

Rabin's remarks were "a clear attempt to undermine Lebanon's sovereignty and to interfere in this country's internal affairs," Bweiz said in remarks published yesterday in Beirut's independent *An-Nahar* daily.

Bweiz was referring to remarks Rabin made in the *The Jerusalem Post* on Monday that the continued presence of the Syrian army in Lebanon was a peace option that Israel could live with.

Bweiz said that "the place, aim and duration of this [Syrian] presence is a Lebanese-Syrian matter which Rabin cannot use as a bargaining card."

Suspect held in TA slaying of reputed underworld figure

RAINE MARCUS

A 36-YEAR-OLD man suspected of the murder of reputed underworld figure Amnon Bahashian was remanded for a week by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Judge George Kara forbid publication of the suspect's name or identifying details.

Bahashian, 51, was gunned down in his Tel Aviv restaurant about a month ago by a man wearing dark glasses and a baseball cap. Bahashian fled the US some five years ago, after police there issued a warrant for his arrest for the attempted murder of a man who was to testify in court against him.

Police said that same witness allegedly killed Bahashian as an act of revenge for the attempted murder. Bahashian's nephew is currently serving time in prison in the US for the attack on the witness.

'An-Nahar' newspaper reopens

Jerusalem Post Staff

An-Nahar, the pro-Jordanian daily newspaper which closed after PLO chairman Yasser Arafat banned it on July 28, reopened on Monday. Othman Hallak, the proprietor, received a license to resume distribution last week, several days after meeting with PA chairman Yasser Arafat.

With sorrow we announce the passing of

Harav AHARON SCHUSTER זצ"ל

The former Chief Rabbi of Holland

Mourned by:
Son: **Avraham Abba Schuster**, Holland
Daughter: **Leah Shulamit Krasniker**
Son-in-law: **Moshe Krasniker**
Grandchildren and great-grandchildren
Danziger family, Bnei Brak

The funeral will take place at 12:00 noon, today, Thursday, September 8, 1994 (3 Tishrei 5755), at the Shamgar funeral parlor, Jerusalem, departing to Har Hazeitim.
Shiva: Krasniker, 2 Shmaryahu Levine, Jerusalem

With deep sorrow, we announce the death, on the first night of Rosh Hashana 5755, September 5, 1994, of our dearly beloved husband and nephew

DAN LEON LANDAU

son of the late Itzhak and Rivka Landau

Mourned by:
His wife: **Greer Fay Cashman**
His aunt: **Batya Landau**
Cousins and friends

The funeral will take place late this afternoon, Thursday, September 8, 1994.
For details please telephone 02-637191, 02-315656, or 02-781653.
Shiva at the home of Rabbi and Mrs. Emanuel Quint, 18 Graetz Street, Talbiyeh Jerusalem, Tel. 02-633012, or 662707.

To **Greer Fay Cashman**
Our condolences on the passing of your
Husband
Management and Staff of The Jerusalem Post

Our deepest condolences to the Robinson family on the death of
DANI ROBINSON
Members of Kibbutz Beit Guvrin

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'Shogun' author dies

LONDON (AP) – James Clavell, screenwriter and best-selling author of *Shogun*, has died in Switzerland after suffering a stroke, his publisher Eric Major of Hodder and Stoughton in London, said yesterday.

He said Clavell lived in Switzerland.

The Australian-born Clavell was screenwriter of immensely popular movies, such as the first version of *The Fly, The Great Escape,* and *To Sir With Love.*

His novels about the Far East include *King Rat* and *Tai-Pan. Shogun,* and *Noble House* were made into popular television miniseries.

Turning his attentions to Iran in 1986, he wrote *Whirlwind,* which sold 4 million paperback copies in the United States alone.

Clavell's latest novel *Gai-Jin* was published by Hodder and Stoughton last year and became an international bestseller.

"He was one of the great epic storytellers of our age – a man who was deeply imbued in tradition, and also enormous fun to work with," said Major.

Explaining the huge popularity of *Shogun,* Major said, "It took the Western mind into a completely different world. It was the first time that one began to understand the Japanese. This came from the period when he was incarcerated as a POW at Chang Yi prison in Singapore, as a young man in his early 20s.

"He also had this ability to handle vast casts of characters. ... to give them personalities so they were instantly recognizable – also all of his books had a very strong woman at the center of them."

Clavell was born Oct. 10, 1924 in Sydney, Australia to British parents. His father was in the Royal Navy.

During World War II he was imprisoned by the Japanese at Singapore's Chang Yi camp, an experience that let to his first novel, *King Rat* in 1962.

After the war he went into films as a writer, then began to direct his own work – *To Sir With Love,* and *The Last Valley.*

He returned to writing fiction with the best-seller *Tai-Pan* in 1966, and continued to produced book after thick book of intriguing historical tales set mostly in Asia.

Clavell lived for many years in the United States and in France.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, April Clavell, and two daughters, Major said. Funeral plans were not immediately announced.



Pop superstar Michael Jackson and his wife Lisa-Marie Presley wave to admirers as they visit the Versailles castle near Paris yesterday. The couple will appear at the MTV Video Music Awards tonight in their first television appearance as husband and wife. (AP)

Britain relaxes security in Northern Ireland

ROBERT BARR
BELFAST

DESPITE continuing doubts that the IRA has laid down arms forever, Britain said yesterday that security has been relaxed in Northern Ireland.

On the seventh day of the IRA cease-fire, British Prime Minister John Major that "gradually, it is being made a little clearer that perhaps this is not just a temporary cease-fire."

"But it isn't clear yet," Major said.

US Vice President Al Gore indicated during a stop at Shannon, Ireland that he accepted the judgment of Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds that the IRA's 24-year campaign is over.

Gore urged Protestant unionists in Northern Ireland to trust Reynolds. "He is a man of his word, totally and absolutely. And I would encourage anyone to make a decision on participation on that basis."

Once Major is satisfied that the cease-fire is permanent, Britain has promised to meet with members of the IRA's political allies in the Sinn Fein party, to discuss terms for joining all-party negotiations on Northern Ireland.

Britain's top official in the province, Sir Patrick Mayhew, confirmed yesterday that security has relaxed. News reports have said that some vehicle checkpoints have been abandoned.

"Certain things are not in place that were," said Mayhew, who mentioned that many soldiers have been wearing berets instead of helmets.

But in the IRA heartland around Belfast's Falls Road, soldiers had helmets in place yesterday afternoon as they patrolled residential areas. And the prospect that they may go away makes some Catholics nervous, so long as Protestant "loyalist" gunmen remain active.

"There is no doubt that vulnerable nationalist communities require security and protection," said Alex Attwood, a Belfast city council member from the Social Democratic and Labor Party, the main Catholic party.

" That's why, whilst we've asked for a reduction in army presence, we've asked that the army sit on the exit and access roads ... to provide a degree of security from loyalist roaming attacks," Attwood said.

Martin McGuinness, the deputy leader of Sinn Fein, said he saw no evidence of reduced security.

"On the contrary, the continuation of raids and arrests, the saturation of nationalist areas ... and the closure of re-opened border roads, is evidence of a no-change policy by the British government," he said.

On the Protestant side, Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the hard-line Democratic Unionist Party, condemned any moves to ease back on security. "The folly of this dangerously incompetent government beggars belief," Robinson said.

While Major has temporized about accepting IRA assurances, he has become embroiled in a dispute with militants on the Protestant side.

On Tuesday, Major walked out of a meeting with the Rev. Ian Paisley after Major demanded but didn't get assurance from Paisley that he accepted the prime minister's word.

Paisley fired back again yesterday at a news conference in Belfast, resorting to his recent habit of comparing his enemies to Nazis.

"This is what Hitler said, you are to believe me or you go to the gas chamber," Paisley said.

"I will continue to expose his lying on TV. Who does he think he is? He is trying to be a dictator."

The feud with Paisley does not bode well for the success of any eventual negotiations. The British tried but failed to get a settlement with Sinn Fein excluded; Paisley, though his party is only the second-largest Protestant party, commands a larger following than Sinn Fein. In the 1992 general election Paisley's party took 13 percent of the vote compared with 10 percent for Sinn Fein.

Resistance from Protestants has wrecked previous attempts at compromise, notably in 1974 when a strike brought down a "power-sharing executive" which had guaranteed representation for minority Catholics. (AP)

Cuban migration talks stall

NEW YORK (AP) – After six days of arduous talks and no agreement on an immigration accord, Cuba's top negotiator headed back to Havana yesterday. US officials said the talks may resume as early as Friday.

The two countries had been discussing how to stop the exodus of Cubans trying to reach Florida on homemade rafts. More than 30,000 rafters have been picked up at sea since Aug. 5, when Cuban President Fidel Castro relaxed immigration restrictions.

Yesterday's meeting, however, broke up after only about an hour.

David Johnson, spokesman for the US delegation, said Cuba's former foreign minister Ricardo Alarcon would return to New York "in the next few days," and talks could resume as early as Friday.

"I would not ascribe any particular significance to this at all," Johnson said of Alarcon's trip back to Havana.

The Cuban delegation had no comment yesterday.

The abreviated session came one day after the Cuban delegation said it could be flexible about discussing its major demand – that the United States ease its 32-year-old economic embargo against the Communist island nation.

The United States has offered to expand legal immigration from Cuba to at least 20,000 people a year in return for Havana's promise to halt raft exodus.

Cuba, for its part, hopes to tie an agreement to the easing of the embargo, which has contributed to a declining standard of living and growing unrest.

The talks yesterday concerned Cuba's counterproposal to the US offer. Although details were not revealed, US officials indicated that it was disappointing and that more work needed to be done to reach an accord.

Western and Latin American diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Cuba appears willing to strike a deal if larger issues of US-Cuban relations and the embargo are discussed later.

Alarcon on Tuesday denied reports that Havana is seeking entry for 100,000 migrants a year. "We have not talked about numbers," he said.

Alarcon, however, insisted Cuba wouldn't halt the exodus without an accord. Cuba, criticized in the past for forbidding its citizens to leave, now will not deny their fundamental right to emigrate, he added.

In Panama yesterday, Cuban refugees settled into a tent camp after a US airlift of thousands of rafters got under way.

Panama is letting 10,000 refugees stay temporarily as a "humanitarian gesture" but has told the United States they must be relocated within six months.

The Cubans will be flown in on US military planes and chartered jetliners in the coming weeks to help ease crowding at the fast-filling camp set up at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

More than 23,000 Cuban refugees picked up by the US Coast Guard have been detained at Guantanamo Bay, which also holds 14,000 Haitian boat people. The Cubans were among the more than 33,000 picked up this year – nine times the number of Cuban rafters picked up all of last year.

Press, government clash in S. Africa

DAVID TUCKER
JOHANNESBURG

THE honeymoon, if there ever was one, between President Nelson Mandela's black-led government and South Africa's white-dominated newspapers is over, but opinions differ widely about who is to blame for the split.

Opinions differ on who is to blame for the split in a relationship forged out of a common cause against South Africa's past apartheid rulers and the birth of a new nation after three centuries of white power.

"Relations between the government and sections of the media can be said to be at a relatively low ebb," Mandela told newspaper editors on Tuesday, referring to tensions between his national unity government and the press.

But he also called for the expansion and deepening of media freedoms linked to greater access to information and freedom of expression for the black majority.

Members of his ANC, which came to power in the country's first all-race elections in April, have complained of unfair reporting on the lifestyles of the newly-rich and famous and their perks, including luxury cars and free air travel.

"The criticism is far too sharp, especially in relation to allegations of the gravy train...sometimes I have the feeling that those who wrote them believe that black people in government are expected to live in ghettoes created by apartheid," human rights lawyer George Bizos told Reuters yesterday.

Bizos, who defended black nationalists including Mandela in treason trials in the early 1960s, accused sections of the press of double-standards.

"I have a feeling that sections of the press are not being fair. They are calling for transparency from everyone in government or from statutory bodies, but they themselves publish anonymous sources' allegations against people in government."

He said the press had been particularly unfair to PWV provincial premier Tokyo Sexwale, described in a recent article by *Sunday Times* editor Ken Owen as His Regional Highness.

Sexwale responded by accusing some sections of the press of seeking to undermine public confidence in the country's first black-led government. Deputy President Thabo Mbeki also entered the fray, saying the media had perpetuated its apartheid-era role of criticizing the government and looking for crises.

Willie Breytenbach, a political scientist at the University of Stellenbosch, had a different view:

"The ANC is beginning to sound very much the same as (past president) P.W. Botha who considered South Africa was under threat from a diabolical outside world and the press should know right from wrong."

"There is a different agenda-...but there are striking similarities. The ANC, I think, considers the media has to be mobilized to support its RDP," he said, referring to the 37.5 billion rand ($10 billion) plan to redress the imbalances of four decades of apartheid rule.

The government could do little wrong in the eyes of the press in the euphoria following the April elections, which were won by Mandela's African National Congress. But the ruling party has been stung by recent criticism that it stopped the old apartheid gravy train only long enough to get on.

"Given the utterances of some members of the ANC, I fear we are coming close to the strait-jacket that has been placed on the media in the rest of Africa," said Breytenbach. (Reuter)

10 dead, 21 wounded in Moscow blast

MOSCOW (AP) – An estimated 10 people were killed and at least 21 were wounded in an explosion that ripped trough a Moscow police station last night, officials said.

Igor Nadezhdin, spokesman for Moscow's municipal medical department, said medics and rescue teams continued to search for survivors under the rubble of the two-story house partially destroyed in the blast.

Nadezhdin said five bodies have been recovered so far. Marina Ryklina, spokeswoman for the Emergency Situations' Ministry, estimated the number of those killed at 10.

The Interfax news agency gave a different casualty toll, saying six people were killed and 27 were wounded, five of them children. It said four of the wounded were in serious condition.

It said the explosion occurred in the basement of a house occupied by the passport office of the local police station No. 44 and a district housing maintenance service. The basement was used for the storage of paint cans and other materials, Interfax said.

Officials said workers apparently left the basement 10 minutes before the blast and could have forgotten a burning cigarette inside, but also did not rule out that the explosion was a criminal attack.

Nigerian justice minister disowns military decrees

LAGOS (Reuter) – Nigeria's minister of justice has disowned military government decrees "which sweep away our liberties" and threatened to resign.

The new laws, which became public knowledge on Tuesday, give military rulers wide powers of arrest in their battle against democracy campaigners and bar any challenge to their actions through the courts.

Justice Minister and Attorney-General Olu Onagoruwa, a democracy campaigner himself until he was recruited into the government by General Sani Aabacha, told reporters yesterday he had nothing to do with new decrees.

He said laws were supposed to be made by the Provisional Ruling Council of which he is a member and drafted by the Ministry of Justice.

"To the best of my knowledge, all the decrees being talked about never passed through these procedures. In fact, the Federal Ministry of Justice has not seen a copy of these laws," he said.

"We disown responsibility for these laws, neither can we vouch for their authenticity," he added.

"A situation where persons and individuals or groups of persons purport to prepare decrees outside the authority of the attorney-general for the signature of the head of state constitutes a prescription for anarchy," Onagoruwa said.

"The ministry has to clear the air in that it has no knowledge, no copy or any information about the promulgation of these decrees which sweep away our liberties."

The decrees allow detention without trial and ban opposition newspapers.

A law saying the government's actions could not be challenged in court was backdated to November, when Abacha seized power during anarchy unleashed by the annulment of an election which the army had promised would restore civilian government.

Bhutto: Islamic countries must unite

ISLAMABAD (AP) – Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto bluntly told the world's Islamic countries they were "weak and divided," and said yesterday they must unite to end conflicts stretching from Afghanistan to Bosnia.

"Today it is Moslems who are the main victims of aggression throughout the world," Ms. Bhutto said as she opened a meeting of foreign ministers from the 51-nation Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The conference turned normally placid Islamabad into a beehive of diplomatic activity, though no major initiatives are expected to emerge during the three days of talks. The OIC is a diverse, unwieldy group with a history of passing resolutions that aren't followed up with action.

Ms. Bhutto said most Islamic nations remained impoverished and underdeveloped, and a lack of Moslem solidarity left them open to exploitation by others.

"The Islamic world is weak and divided," said Ms. Bhutto, one of the only women in a packed hotel conference center. "Many of us are locked in disputes with each other. Most of our people live in poverty."

Many delegates consider the Bosnian war the most pressing issue, and the Islamic states appear unanimous in calling for the lifting of the UN arms embargo against Bosnia, where the Moslems have been outgunned by the rival Serbs.

Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic said his Moslem fighters were evading the embargo with smuggled weapons, though he refused to say which countries were involved.

"We are smuggling arms into our own country. We make arms. We shall take arms from wherever we can," Silajdzic told a news conference.

"It is unbelievable that (the arms embargo) is still valid although it has not brought anything at all but death, misery and destruction," he said.

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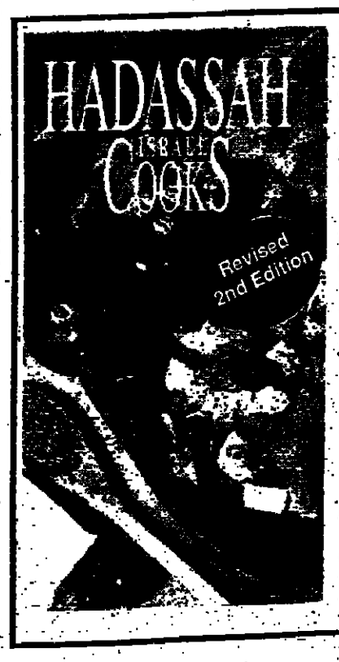
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EU leaders discuss cross-border crime

STEPHEN NISBET

BERLIN

EUROPEAN Union justice and interior ministers yesterday discussed plans to fight international crimes ranging from nuclear smuggling to car theft in a post-Cold War Europe of loosened border controls.

The ministers, meeting informally at Berlin's Reichstag building, also debated possible extensions of the role of Europol, the bloc's embryo police, in taking on organised crime.

The German presidency of the EU, which runs for six months until the end of this year, expressed confidence after the meeting that Europol's tasks would gradually be expanded to include issues such as nuclear smuggling and car theft.

But other ministers struck a more cautious note, both on the idea of any rapid widening of Europol's job and on the nuclear theft question which the German government has been stressing in the run-up to a general election next month.

A junior British home affairs minister, Michael Forsyth, said Europol should walk before learning to run, adding he was unaware of any nuclear smuggling case in Britain of the kind that has caused such official alarm in Bonn.

The EU ministers on today will hold talks with their counterparts from six East European countries, and the issue of cross-border crime involving drugs and illegal immigrants is expected to be high on the agenda as well as nuclear smuggling.

Padraig Flynn, the EU's Justice and Home Affairs Commissioner, said yesterday there was considerable sympathy among ministers for Forsyth's point that a thorough joint assessment was needed by European governments on the scale and implications of the problem which the Germans had highlighted.

Since May there have been four seizures of nuclear material which Bonn believes may have come from stocks in Russia or other parts of the former Soviet Union.

Interior Minister Manfred Kanther told a news conference after yesterday's talks: "There have been hundreds of cases in the whole of Europe in the last few years. Clearly the market is being tested.

"Border controls must be stepped up and we must fight nuclear crime in the potential countries of origin," added Kanther, who linked the upsurge of cases of people trying to find buyers for stolen nuclear material to closer links with the former Soviet bloc after the Cold War.

Kanther said he believed there was a "fair chance" that there could be agreement among the EU member states "by the end of autumn" on a Europol convention spelling out the agency's structure and responsibilities.

But he acknowledged that more discussion was needed on the question of adding an anti-terrorism role to Europol's future responsibilities, and that there was still no consensus on the issue of how to ensure parliamentary control over Europol.

A Europol drugs unit has been functioning in The Hague since the start of this year, and Germany has been pressing for an early widening of its functions. The unit is at present basically a relay point to exchange information between national police and customs authorities. (Reuter)



A Zairean aid worker leads hundreds of Rwandan refugee children down to the shore of Lake Kivu near Goma. (AP)

UN sends team to evaluate security in Goma refugee camps

DILIP GANGULY

GOMA

A Hutu refugee who wanted to return to Rwanda was chased by a mob and stoned to death yesterday, an aid official said. The man was the latest victim in a wave of violence sweeping the overloaded refugee camps.

UN officials and aid workers are finding dozens of bodies daily of people who have died overnight in refugee camps around Goma. Some have stab wounds or crushed heads, suggesting they have been murdered.

After weeks of similar reports, the United Nations is now sending a team to evaluate security in the camps, which are so dangerous that Western aid workers must leave before dark.

"This team will evaluate the entire security situation and suggest ways how to deal with the condition," UN High Commissioner for Refugees spokesman Kris Janowski said yesterday.

"The camps are huge and our people are in a very limited area," he added.

Yesterday's killing in the Kibumba camp, home to 340,000 Hutu refugees from Rwanda, was unusual only because it was witnessed by a Westerner.

"It was the most bizarre thing I have ever seen in my life," said the aid official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "They chased the man...then they surrounded him and then they stoned him to death."

The UN team, whose composition is still being worked out in New York, will arrive later this week and will be headed by Shaharyar Khan, the UN special representative for Rwanda.

Team members will talk with Zairian authorities and will travel to the camps, where they will try to convince camp elders that the intimidation and killing must stop, Janowski said.

The UN has no police force to enforce law and order in the camps, which are under virtual control of 30,000 Hutu soldiers and 70,000 militia. Those Hutus are adamant about not returning to Rwanda, which since July has been under the control of the former Tutsi rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front.

The Hutus need the refugees as a bargaining chip to regain at least some of the power they lost after being ousted this summer.

Aid workers say every morning when they visit the camps, they come across dozens of bodies wrapped up and lying around for disposal. No post-mortem examinations of the bodies are done, but aid workers believe the refugees were killed by Hutu death squads, said another foreign aid worker, who also spoke on condition of anonymity.

The aid worker said clotted blood on some of the bodies and badly bruised heads indicated they had been injured rather than dying of disease.

Zaire is home to more than 1.2 million Hutu refugees who fled the advancing army of the Tutsi rebels now in power in Rwanda. More than 800,000 more Rwandan refugees are in other neighboring countries.

The rebel offensive began after Hutu militias launched massacres this spring, killing up to 500,000 Tutsis. Some opposition Hutus were also killed. (AP)

Charles furious over nude photo

LONDON (Reuter) – Britain's Prince Charles was said to be furious on yesterday over a photograph taken of him nearly nude while on holiday, and royal aides were considering what steps to take over the episode.

The picture of the heir to the throne at a French chateau with just a towelling robe draped over his shoulder left little to the imagination when it was splashed on the front page of the German tabloid Bild yesterday.

"You can compare it with the David of Michelangelo," Paul Martin, deputy editor of *Bild*, told BBC radio justifying his decision to publish.

Martin said he had taken calls from delighted readers. "It is an absolutely perfectly shaped body," he added.

But a spokeswoman for Buckingham Palace branded the photos highly intrusive. "It's completely unjustifiable to inflict this sort of intrusion on anyone," she said. The palace was "considering what (action) may be appropriate".

"Anyone would find this sort of intrusion deeply unpleasant and annoying," the spokeswoman said when asked for the reaction of Charles who is estranged from his glamorous wife Diana.

But *Bild* raved about 45-year-old Charles's bronzed body "hunky like a Greek statue", claiming the first ever nude picture of Queen Elizabeth's eldest son.

"We were offered the picture yesterday and we bought it right away," Martin said. "We have had consultations of course with our lawyers and our legal department and they had no doubts about publishing it."

He refused to say how much the picture had cost but said the price tag was "surprisingly low."

Democrats shun Clinton in anti-Washington campaign

WASHINGTON (Reuter) – Democrats are campaigning for November's congressional elections on themes of small government, family values and law and order – traditional Republican issues.

A review of campaign television advertisements for a dozen Democrats running for the Senate shows most candidates from President Clinton's party, whether incumbents or challengers, are scurrying to portray themselves as political outsiders.

The advertisements show all are fighting Congress and what they see as the institutional corruption of Washington, D.C.

"He hasn't forgotten where he comes from. He votes for what he believes in and not just for the party," says one fairly typical spot for New Mexico Senator Jeff Bingaman, who faces a tough battle to win re-election.

Thirty five Senate seats and all 435 slots in the House of Representatives are up for renewal in the November 8 vote, with Republicans – now a minority in both houses – expected to make gains and possibly even retake control of the Senate.

The advertising makes clear Democrats are running scared.

"You can't tell from their spots whether these guys are Republican or Democrats. They rarely even say they are Democrats and never ever mention President Clinton,' said Gary Koops of the Republican senatorial campaign committee.

"They're not talking about Clinton issues. They're running on Republican agenda items," Koops said.

One of the most popular is fighting Washington waste, as in this ad for Nevada Democratic Senator Dick Bryan, in which an announcer declares: "For 39 years, Washington has wasted our tax dollars subsidising wool and mohair production."

"Dick Bryan stood up for taxpayers and passed a law to end the ripoff. When Congress wanted to waste millions searching for extra-terrestials in outer space, Dick Bryan stood up for us and ended the waste. Dick Bryan – for the balanced-budget and for fighting waste, Nevada tough."

In Arizona, Democratic hopeful Sam Coppersmith, a House member seeking a Senate seat, reminds voters he's a homebody and not a creature of Washington.

One of his spots intones: "Two years ago, Arizona sent Sam Coppersmith to Congress to fight for change. With independence and courage, he started solving problems and standing up for what's right. And he never forgets where he came from."

Then Coppersmith himself comes on. "The hardest thing in Washington is to remember the difference between who you work with and who you work for. People in Washington, you work with them. But the people you work for are back here in Arizona."

The theme of traditional family values is usually a Republican issue, but Democrat Bob Carr, running for the Senate in Michigan, has something to say about it.

"Sometimes it seems that the moral fabric of our society is coming apart," Carr says in one of his paid messages.

"Too many kids think it's OK to cheat on an exam. Too many adults think it's OK to lie. We've got to get back to some basics and that means individual responsibility."

Portugal's Marranos emerge after five centuries

HELENA POZNIAK

BELMONTE, Portugal

AFTER five centuries of clandestine worship, a small gathering of Jews in the remote town of Belmonte has shed the pretense of Christianity and is relearning its past with the help of a Jerusalem rabbi.

The 200-strong community is the only sizeable group of Jews in Portugal to have clung secretly to its identity since persecutions began in the 15th century.

"This community has waited 500 years – it was Catholic on the outside, but Jewish within," says 31-year-old Rabbi Shlomo Sobag, who came from Jerusalem last year at Belmonte's request.

In 1497 Portugal ordered Jews to convert or leave, following the example of neighboring Spain five years earlier.

Only a fraction of Portugal's Jews left. Most publicly renounced their religion and become "New Christians" instead.

Many converts adopted names of trees or places as surnames to disguise their Jewish origins and these are now common throughout Portugal. Today's telephone directories are packed with names such as Oliveira (olive tree), Pereira (pear tree), Castanheira (chestnut tree) and Lisboa (Lisbon).

Some "Marranos" – a once-derogatory name – discreetly maintained clandestine communities in remote towns and villages, but the only one to survive is that of Belmonte.

This sleepy town of old granite houses and modern suburbs is clustered round a hilltop castle 300 km northeast of Lisbon. Better known as the birthplace of Pedro Alvares Cabral, the Portuguese explorer who discovered Brazil in 1500, it is cut off from the rest of Portugal by the Serra de Estrela mountains.

Belmonte's Jews continued to observe Shabbat at home while attending mass on Sunday with their Roman Catholic neighbors. They rarely married outside the small tightly-knit community, but lived harmoniously with the Christian majority.

Jewish couples would wed publicly in church, but a Jewish ceremony would be held later in private homes.

At the start of the Sabbath, Jewish women would light candles at home and chant the Hebrew prayers passed from generation to generation by word of mouth.

"It must have taken incredible resistance, huge courage to remain in Portugal at the time of the Inquisition," says Estelle Muchnik, a leading figure of Lisbon's Jewish community. "Up to 20 percent of the population was probably Jewish at that time, but they risked being burnt at the stake."

The Portuguese Inquisition was suppressed in 1820, but Judaism was only granted legal status in 1921. Six years ago, most Jews in Belmonte finally cut links with the Roman Catholic Church, encouraged by growing religious tolerance in Portugal, and wrote to Israel for support.

"We were clandestine Marranos. Now we are learning to become orthodox," said one Jewish woman, born in Belmonte. "We are more relaxed now – we felt freer after the 1974 revolution," she explained.

For Rabbi Sobag and his wife Miriam, it has not been an easy year, since Belmonte's Jews retained only a smattering of traditions, modified over the years by Catholicism in isolation from any other Jewish community.

"You can't, in a short space of time, introduce too many restrictions," he said. "People can't suddenly miss work for a week due to some festival or stop eating food they've had all their life."

The children are eager to learn about Israel and attend Miriam's impromptu Hebrew lessons, where she gives a colorful description of the Jewish orthodox lifestyle.

"The next generation will be different," she says. "Children are already telling the older generations how things are done."

Every night men gather in a makeshift synagogue – an annex to the rabbi's house – and the community has plans to build a proper place of worship this year. "They have more devotion than Jewish communities in Lisbon," Rabbi Sobag said.

Christian residents of Belmonte are bemused by the sudden rise in the Jewish community's profile but most welcome the change. Lucinda Melo, Belmonte's tourism officer said: "We would play with them at school as with any other boys and girls, but sometimes they seemed to have an inferiority complex. It's a good thing the rabbi is doing here." (Reuter)

Sky-TV may beam logo into night sky

LONDON (Reuter) – Sky television station said yesterday it may next year launch a space satellite to project its logo, which will appear to be about the size of the full moon in the night sky.

A spokesman for the Sky satellite network said a plan for an extra-terrestrial advertisement, on a satellite in a geostationary orbit 200-300 km above the earth, was "in the process of being researched and developed".

The advertisement, which would be shown for up to five days, would be directed at Britain but would be visible from other parts of Europe.

The satellite would be launched conventionally. But when it reached orbit, it would unfold to reveal the logo, which would be lit up by the sun, in the same way as the moon.

London's *Evening Standard* newspaper quoted one "insider" at Sky as saying of the $20 million plan: "Just think of the impact. It would be all over the press."

But in a commentary, the newspaper called on the British government to step in to ban such advertisements. "The sky is full of advertising messages – for hi-fis, cameras, breakfast cereals, hamburgers, porn channels ... Shakespeare's 'floor of heaven thick inlaid with patines of bright gold' has become a permanent Piccadilly Circus suspended above us all," it said.

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Plaid Cerruti coat with tweed lining has a hemline between midcalf and ankle.

A growing presence: Designers from afar

FLAIR

GREER FAY CASHMAN

UNTIL a decade ago, most Israelis associated shopping with travel abroad.

But with taxes on imported products coming down and the volume of imported international brands on the rise, almost anything available overseas can be purchased here.

Fashionwise, labels like Christian Dior, Benetton, Genny, Gianni Versace, Laurel, Max Mara, Mondi, Yves Saint Laurent, Fendi, Levis, Guess, Esprit, Stefanel, Louis Ferraud, Krizia, and others have been locally obtainable for some time.

As of this season, the list also includes Cerruti 1881. Not that Cerruti is a stranger to the Israeli market. Cerruti hose have been sold here for several years, but now Cerruti clothes are selling in Tel Aviv's Gan Ha'ir.

The Israel branch of Cerruti is operated by the Golus family, which also represents and markets Laurel. The Golus family is better known for its own high-quality children's wear under the Solog label.

In frequent demand to design clothes for high-budget films in contemporary settings, Nino Cerruti adapts the same concepts to his seasonal collections, which for fall/winter are dominated by mannish tailoring in the softest fabrics including wool jersey, velvet, silk and georgette. Knits are mostly ribbed. The intriguing assortment of lengths and widths allows every woman to dress in a manner to suit herself.

Although the general propensity of other designers is to favor hemlines high above the knee, Cerruti prefers them somewhere between midcalf and ankle, especially when it comes to coats. Some of his coats are slim and spare. Others are cut with a wide swagger.

Trousers similarly vary from stove-pipe to voluminous widths, and come in cuffed and uncuffed versions.

His three-piece suits, some with shawl-collared vests, take power dressing to its limits.





Cerruti three-piece suit with shawl-collared jacket and vest and narrow trousers easily blurs the lines between the sexes, especially on a reed-thin model (left); his shawl-collared textured coat and long, silky shirt soften the mannish look of wide-cut, cuffed trousers.

Spacious, sleek-looking mini is loaded with accessories

MOTORING

JOEL GORDIN

THE Fiat Punto appears in Israeli showrooms this month, in time to greet the 1995 automobile year.

The Punto has been on sale in Europe since the start of the calendar year, boosting Fiat sales on the continent by 14 percent and in Italy by 30 percent.

These excellent results led to a collective sigh of relief at the Italian concern, still suffering the effects of last year's slump in European car buying.

Failure of the Punto to take off and become a worthy successor to the Uno would spell disaster to the Italian company, forcing large-scale layoffs and the closing of plants.

The Punto has been nicknamed the "Super Uno" because that's basically what it is. It is a face-lifted, revamped, modernized Uno, a car which has been – and still is – tremendously popular in Israel, mainly because of its low price tag.

The Uno will still be sold here, but the local Fiat dealer, Mediterranean Car Agency, hopes to phase it out. Thus it has kept the price of the corresponding models on a par. For example, the Uno 1,000cc costs NIS 42,199, while the Punto 1,100cc is marked up only to NIS 43,990.

Unlike the Uno, which had only 1,100cc and 1,400cc versions, the Punto is available here in a bewildering range. Engine sizes range from 1,100 to 1,600cc, all in a variety of standards of finish. All are hatchbacks, with folding rear seats, but there are two-door and four-door versions. There is a GT turbo, packing 136 h.p. and a Cabriolet (convertible) for NIS 90,000-plus.

Just about the only model that will not be sold here is the 1,100cc with six gears, popular among youngsters who do not have the money for a high-performance GT. The six gears, as on a motorcycle engine, allow the driver to get the most from even a relatively placid engine.

I have test-driven most of the models, for varying periods of time, and I would prefer to give a general impression of the Punto range as a whole rather than concentrate on one model.



The Punto is a facelifted, revamped, modernized version of the hugely popular Uno.

The name Punto, according to a Fiat spokesman, was "chosen from 1,000 candidates drawn up with the help of specialists and advertising agencies from many countries."

After all that, I don't particularly care for the name which has a sharp, flat ring. However, I must admit the name is about the only thing I do not like about the Punto.

The exterior design by Giorgetto Giugiaro puts paid to the complaint that all cars look alike nowadays. The Punto is smoothly handsome, with a low-nosed, square-tailed wedge profile. The traditional Fiat grille is absent. The raised rear lights are the most distinctive part and an excellent safety feature.

The fit, the finish and the high-class materials show that Fiat has come a long way since the Italian company was given a bad name for its shoddy work.

The Punto not only has a big-car look about it from the outside, but each model also has more interior space – both for passengers and for luggage – than any other make in its class. The emphasis on most of the Punto range – except the GT Turbo and maybe the Cabriolet – will be on practicality, not performance.

However, the engines are all adequate, the gear changes are smooth, matched by a well-weighted clutch. On any kind of surface they handle predictably.

The Punto models are rich in accessories and even the smaller models offer, as standard equipment, electrically controlled front windows and an air recirculation function. The bigger versions give refinements such as steering-wheel controls for the radio/tape.

Safety is a big priority on relatively small cars. More important than high-tech toys and acceleration and maximum speed performances, all the Puntos have side-impact protection beams, pretensioned front seat belts, anti-submarining front seats, and an impact-absorbing steering wheel as standard equipment. Airbags and ABS braking systems are optional.

Honorable mention must be given to the version called the "75HSD" or "high safety drive." It is a "safety package," which includes power steering, ABS, rear head restraints and driver's airbag – in addition to the safety features standard on the other models. It's a refreshing change to see that "safety package" cars are being offered in addition to GTs and Cabriolets.

To sum up: Fiat set itself tough targets when it launched the Punto into the highly competitive market of superminis or small hatchbacks.

But it succeeded and is offering a sleek-looking car with lots of space, standard accessories and safety features in an aggressively priced package.

The prices of the models are:

The "55" (1,100cc, 55 h.p.) starts from NIS 43,990; the "75" (1,200cc, 75 h.p.) from NIS 46,790; the "90" (1,600cc , 90 h.p.) from NIS 55,990; the GT Turbo (1,400cc, 136 h.p.) from NIS 74,990; the Cabriolet 90 from NIS 95,990. The 75HSD (safety package) version is priced at NIS 51,990.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

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BINOCULARS – Super Zenith, lightweight, 7 x 50, field 7°, NIS 200; desk and bookshelf, NIS 80; Walkman, radio, and speakers, NIS 20. 02-669393.

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TOASTER OVEN – NIS 80; suitcase, NIS 25; candlesticks, black, new, NIS 40; food processor, NIS 50; wooden Italian wall sconces, NIS 90; books from NIS 3. 02-561327.

SNEAKERS – American, size 7, in very good condition, NIS 50. 02-374033.

SAMSONITE LUGGAGE – new, NIS 45 and NIS 76, small and large; manual typewriter, portable, new, NIS 200. 02-361563, NS.

GRAY-BROWN CARPET – 66 cm x 3 m long, NIS 60; orange-brown carpet (Carmel), NIS 120, 1.98 x 2.56 m, both excellent condition. 02-610746.

SWATCH WATCH – new in case, NIS 120 o.b.o.; Liz Claiborne loafers, purple leather, women's size 7½, new, NIS 90. 02-381947, NS.

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Acting under pressure

THE arrest of scores of Islamic Jihad activists in Gaza by the Palestinian Police should not generate undue optimism. True, this is the first time the police force in the autonomous areas has taken any real action following terror incidents, but it is plain PLO leader Yasser Arafat only ordered the crackdown following strong Israeli pressure.

Indeed, after the killing of IDF soldier Victor Shichman in Gaza Sunday night, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned Arafat that a refusal to take action would make it difficult for Israel to further implement the Cairo agreement concerning the expansion of Palestinian self-rule.

In a Rosh Hashana-eve interview with *The Jerusalem Post*'s Steve Rodan and Alon Pinkas, Rabin also made it clear that until now, the Palestinian Authority had failed to meet its commitment under the Declaration of Principles to fight terror. "We don't feel that the Palestinian Authority takes the measures they can take against terror, Hamas, and the Islamic Jihad," he said.

It is too early to tell whether this round of arrests will actually lead to the apprehension of those responsible for Shichman's killing and, if it does, whether Arafat will follow through and extradite the suspects to Israel, but the portents for such developments are disappointing.

Israel's official representatives on the Joint Security Command last week formally requested the extradition of the killers of Shlomo Kapah and Gil Revah, who were brutally murdered last month at a Ramle building site – a terrorist killing Arafat described as resulting from a labor dispute. Israel has given the Palestinian Police the names of the five men from Rafiah suspected of the murder, but nothing has yet been done.

If Arafat wants to convince Israelis that he is a partner for peace, as Rabin still calls him, then he has to overcome the political difficulties facing him in Gaza and assert his authority over the Islamic fundamentalists there. Cracking down in the Islamic Jihad, which is supported by only a small minority of Gazans, should be easier for Arafat than bringing the Hamas to heel. But it will take more than belated arrests to convince Israelis that Arafat is ready to live up to his responsibilities.

Papal fallibility

THE people of Sarajevo have been bitterly upset by the cancellation of the visit by Pope John Paul II. Preparations for such a visit are always extensive, and no more so than in a besieged city. The disappointment of the thousands of children rehearsing their hearts out for the welcoming ceremonies was palpable. But the trip should never have been planned in the first place.

The only reason for such a trip by a major international figure with the moral stature of the pope should be to improve the situation on the ground for the people of the war zone. While no one questions the pontiff's personal idealism and pain over the suffering in Yugoslavia, he should have been more firmly advised by Vatican and foreign diplomats against announcing such a trip at this juncture.

Whatever his own intentions, the combatants in Bosnia are reading the worst of diplomatic messages into the pope's solitary trip to Zagreb. It conveniently feeds the Serbian propaganda line that the Vatican is taking sides with Croatian Catholics in the religious-ethnic conflict – the whole basis of the Bosnian war. Facts and truth have little influence in such a conflict – it is prejudices and perceptions that count. In this arena, the memories of Croatian fascism in World War II and alleged Catholic collaboration with it are vividly alive and, like all the Balkan hatreds, have been fueled and fanned by a vicious war. The historical fact that only a minority of priests were fascists has long been lost.

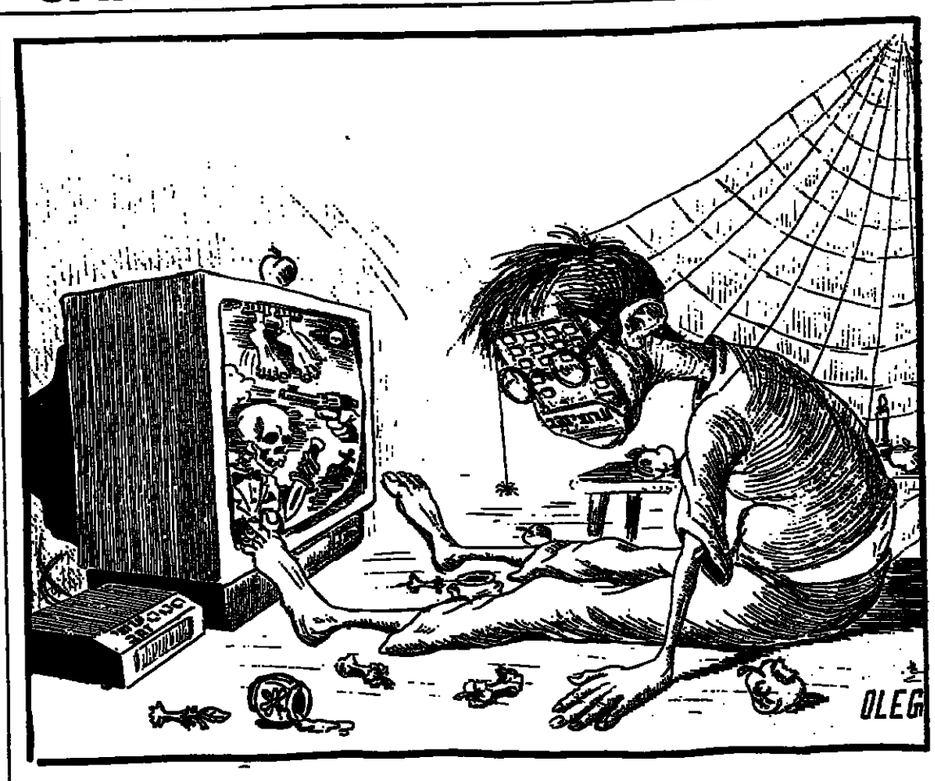
The Serbian warning that the time was "not ripe" for a visit to Belgrade should have been heeded in the Vatican. It was only a short step from that relatively polite rebuttal to the embarrassing refusal of the Serbs to cooperate in guaranteeing security for the papal visit to Sarajevo. If all the parties could not be persuaded to host the pontiff and take advantage of his attempts at reconciliation, then the time certainly was not right. If the Serbs could not guarantee to silence their snipers and gunners, then it would have taken only one death during the pope's visit to turn the trip into a diplomatic disaster. And, of course, any attack on the pope himself could only have led to a nightmare of ferocious reprisals and recriminations.

It was clear that the risk of any dangerous incidents would have to lead to the visit being called off. It was equally clear from the day the trip was announced that such a risk could not be eliminated. The Serbian contention that the pope could be an important target for any faction that wanted to discredit the Serbs was not unduly paranoid in the Bosnian situation, any more than were the fears that some Serbian fanatic could target him.

It is quite hard to see what benefit the papal visit was supposed to bring the long-suffering people of Bosnia – beyond further international attention, of which they have already grown cynical. The blame for the planning of it is being laid on the doorstep of a small but very influential Catholic lobby group which assured the Vatican in February that Croats, Serbs and Moslems would all welcome and support a papal visit. This was arrant nonsense, but Vatican diplomats fell for it. The Serbian secular leadership may indeed have been willing to accommodate such a visit, but the organizers overlooked the immense power of the Serbian Orthodox Church to change their minds.

The Orthodox Serbs have been on the fault line of the great schism between Eastern and Western Christianity for centuries. They also suffered the brunt of imperial Ottoman oppression which has underpinned Orthodox prejudices against Moslems. The combatants in Bosnia are already raking in political capital from the Vatican fiasco. Croats, who should know better, have ignored the pope's own declaration that his trip is pastoral. President Franjo Tudjman yesterday said it signals Vatican support for Croatia's struggle against the Serbs. It is not a line the Serbs are likely to disagree with, given the glee with which Metropolitan Bishop Vasilije, of the Serbian Orthodox Church's Holy Synod, greeted the cancellation of the Sarajevo leg.

One unfortunate aspect of the cancellation has been that, had security been guaranteed for the pope in Sarajevo, it might have pushed the international community to demilitarize the city. All the cancellation demonstrates is how vulnerable Sarajevo's population remains, and how feeble is the United Nations pretense of being in control of a 20-km exclusion zone. But this glaring lesson will be forgotten in the diplomatic fuss and strident propaganda surrounding the whole papal affair. If he cannot visit Belgrade or Sarajevo as a respected neutral religious leader, the pope should immediately cancel his trip to Zagreb before more damage is done. Many fools have rushed into Bosnia, but it is a place where popes and angels alike should still fear to tread.



Biggest lie of them all

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

CROSSES, churches, convents, chapels and other Christian symbols are sprouting over the sites of Nazi concentration and death camps all over Europe.

In Sobibor, Poland, for instance, where 250,000 Jews were slaughtered, there is nothing to tell the world that the murdered men, women, children and babies were Jews. Following an uprising by some of the prisoners, the Nazis destroyed the camp and plowed it up in a bid to hide the evidence of their genocide.

Poland's postwar communist regime built a universal mother-and-child memorial at the camp. Now the church has taken over the job of masking the fact that virtually only Jews died at Sobibor. It has built a Catholic house of worship on the ground stained with the tears and blood of the victims – even though the nearby village has its own church.

As a recent visitor put it: "The cross at the heart of Sobibor perpetuates the Nazi lie. It desecrates the identity of the victims as well as their memory and faith as Jews."

In Dachau, over a dozen Christian crosses and places of worship dominate the skyline. One is the Carmelite Convent of Holy Blood built in the framework of a watchtower, where nuns pray for the sins of the victims murdered at Dachau (including prayers for the souls of Jews for being Jewish when shot).

There is no sign to explain that most of the blood spilled there was Jewish blood. A huge bell rings out several times a day in memory of Austrian priests who died at Dachau.

"Surely this is a place where the dead should be allowed to rest in silence and peace," says Jerusalem resident Elie Wurtman, who visited recently. "Christians died here too. Yet of its 140,000 inmates, 121,000 were Jews who were either shot on the spot or sent to Auschwitz to be gassed.

"There is one cross in particular, in the center of Dachau. It dominates the entire site. At the wall where victims were shot stands the Catholic Agony of Christ Chapel. Close by is the Protestant Reconciliation Church. There are regular services there every Sunday at 11 a.m.

"How can they sing and pray in this place of Hell?" Wurtman asks. "The only indication that Jews died here is a single memorial decorated with a menora but no Star of David, tucked away on the right."

Continues Wurtman: "An 80-page book issued to visitors at Dachau has six photographs of crosses, churches, priests, nuns, convents, etc., but nothing of the faith of Judaism. The very word 'Jew' is hardly mentioned, except for one prayer calling for the end of hatred between Jews and Arabs. The impression a visitor gets is that nuns and priests were present in the camps as protectors."

Priests and nuns do their thing at Dachau, betraying the Jews slaughtered there

Adds Chicago resident Jack Reich, who went back recently after 50 years: "There were no bishops or nuns praying with their crosses for my loved ones when we were being humiliated, starved and murdered. This is nothing less than the spiritual desecration of what was predominantly a slaughterhouse for Jews.

"If the Vatican really cared about the Holocaust, it could have done something at the time. It doesn't help me to know that they are praying for my family now. All I feel here is the distress of the tormented souls of my parents, brothers, sisters, uncles and aunts and cousins, as well as the other Jews tortured and murdered here.

"There is an attempt here to betray them, to hide the fact that they were Jews. It's shameful. These churches have no place here. It's a cemetery. My dead family, like the others who died with them, should be respected and honored by being left in peace."

THE SAME attempt to hide the enormity of the Nazi genocide is seen at Birkenau, part of the Auschwitz complex where 1,100,000 Jews perished. The Polish bishops have taken the building where the Nazi commandant of Birkenau lived and issued his daily orders to send men, women, children and babies to the gas chambers, and converted it into yet another church.

Wurtman also visited Birkenau. He said: "There are two crosses at the church here. They dominate what must be the largest Jewish cemetery of all time. This is deliberate, blatant religious revisionism. It is Christianization of the Holocaust, an attempt by elements in the Vatican to cover up their guilt at doing nothing to try and stop it."

Says historian and biographer Martin Gilbert: "What the Catholic Church is doing is scandalous and grotesque.

"Only a few months ago, I was at Theresienstadt ghetto, where I serve on an international committee creating a museum devoted to the memory of the victims. These sincere people are trying to show the world a true picture of the dreadful things that happened in this ghetto. Of the 140,000 human beings who were imprisoned there, 123,500 were Jews who were either killed on the site or sent to die at Auschwitz.

"I intend protesting the way a cross has now been raised there. I am going to ask the World Jewish Congress or Yad Vashem and others to demand that the internationally recognized 1917 Treaty of Lausanne be applied immediately to the Nazi concentration and death camps too.

"This treaty was accepted by Moslem and Christian countries, which agreed without question that cemeteries of those who died in war in any country must be honored and put in the care solely of the families of the dead. It created a precedent which still applies today internationally.

"For instance," Gilbert says, "there are 2,500 cemeteries of British soldiers in France and Flanders, which are considered British property. Only their families or descendants have the right to put up monuments or gravestones or symbols of their faith there.

"There are cemeteries in Israel of British dead which are considered forever as belonging to their relatives. The British pay and care for these graves. No Israeli government would dream of putting up a synagogue at the British war cemetery on Mount Scopus.

"A cemetery is a holy place for many people. We must all respect that – Jew, Christian or Moslem. It's our duty to do so. For the dead cannot speak for themselves."

Says Avi Beker, executive director of the World Jewish Congress in Israel: "We have been deeply troubled by the attempt to Christianize the Holocaust. We will raise the matter at our next meeting in Mexico, and will certainly consider the views of Mr. Martin Gilbert on the subject."

The writers are authors of The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service *and other books on the Middle East.*

The American way

LOUIS RENE BERES

FOLLOWING the imaginative lead of the US in its handling of North Korea's nuclear threat, Jerusalem should make large financial and technical contributions to Teheran's nuclear program.

Israel should understand that a demonstration of military power against Iran would be counterproductive and that appeasement represents the only sure way to safety.

After all, when the best and the brightest in Washington devise America's nonproliferation policy, shouldn't Jerusalem sit up and take notice? It is time to acknowledge that protection rackets operate on a global level, and that paying off the collector is a sensible way to go.

At this moment, Iran continues to move at a dizzying pace in constructing a complete nuclear arsenal, an inventory of catastrophic weapons intended primarily to overwhelm and destroy Israel.

Facing this existential threat to the Third Temple, Jerusalem has several different options. It can choose to do nothing, waiting for widely scattered Iranian deployments and for the effective end to

How to denuclearize Iran? Israel can learn a lesson from the US's deal with Korea

Israeli opportunities for anticipatory self-defense.

It can prepare to undertake timely preemptions against Iranian nuclear assets, selective strikes against pertinent hard targets that would generate minimal loss of human life and would preclude later Iranian nuclear attacks against Israeli population centers.

Or it can cooperate with Iran, accepting that country's prospective promise (a promise not yet offered) not to proceed with nuclearization in exchange for Israeli assistance with Iran's peaceful nuclear purposes.

To bring about the third option, which contains all of the obvious merits and refinements of US strategic thought, Israel could levy a special tax upon all Israelis, allowing the entire citizenry to make essential contributions to Israel's new Islamic friends.

Indeed, following its own special expertise in such matters, the US government could add several billion dollars to the bribe, a sweetener that would certainly make Iran change course and give Israelis needed peace of mind.

WHY SHOULDN'T this third option be the best one for Jerusalem?

Even though Iran, like North Korea, will not have to submit to any seriously intrusive inspections or checks on its conformance with agreed-upon procedures, we may assume that the leadership in Teheran will act honestly and in complete good faith in its pledges to a country it has sworn to annihilate.

In the absence of such an assumption, Israel would have to take exceedingly unpleasant actions in the short run. Wouldn't it be far better, following the American lead, to trade off long-term physical survival for short-term political benefit?

As an added incentive, such a trade-off would be especially rational for Israel today, as Jerusalem has already embarked fully upon a policy of capitulation and bribes in its dealings with the PLO. By paying off Iran, therefore, Israel would not only be acting in dutiful mimicry of American wisdom, it would also be acting consistently with its other already implemented policies for national security.

In the agreements being worked out between the US, North Korea and South Korea, when the North guarantees the "transparency of its nuclear activities," Seoul will support North Korea's development of the "peaceful use of nuclear energy."

Such support will take the form of modern nuclear power plants costing about $4 billion. The guarantee of "transparency" is to be ensured by Pyongyang's "pledge" to abandon activities that might produce nuclear weapons and to remain a party to the Nonproliferation Treaty.

What more could anyone ask for? Surely this Korean solution, reflecting the US State Department's particular genius for making foreign policy, is tailor made for resolving Israel's nuclear concerns about Iran. Or am I perhaps missing something important?

The writer is the author of 14 books dealing with issues of nuclear strategy and nuclear war, including Apocalypse: Nuclear Catastrophe in World Politics *and* Security or Armageddon: Israel's Nuclear Strategy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEATH ON THE ROADS

Sir, – Isn't it time that the Road Safety Administration stop passing the buck in referring to the deaths and casualties on our roads in the past year? Placing the blame of accidents on children because they fail to use the pedestrian crossing is just another way of saying that motorists are not responsible.

Actually the motorist is not totally to blame either as long as the traffic authorities drag their feet over the issue of reducing nationwide the speed limit to 30 kph in hazardous areas. Why was it such an easy decision to raise the speed limit on the fast roads last November and such a difficult one to reduce it in the towns?

How many more lives will be lost before those decision-makers realize that organizing a mass of volunteers for the first few days of the new school year is not the answer to legislation?

Netanya. *SYLVIA WEINER*

SOME BLESSING

Sir, – I refer to your article of August 31, "A renegade Jewish history researcher takes on the establishment." It seems that Mr. Myers has been spending too much time in libraries researching "great scholars" such as Gerson Cohen, dealing with "The Blessing of Assimilation," and not enough in soul searching.

Coming from Los Angeles myself, I can tell you one need not venture far to see the "blessings" of assimilation and its impact on the family, community and future of the Jewish people. I have one sister and three cousins, none of whom fall into the category of self-denying or self-hating Jew, but nevertheless have little interest in becoming practicing Jews or even marrying Jewish partners. Are these the assimilationists who have been a vital part of our cultural survival?

Their children will most probably have little or no Jewish education and their only Jewish identity will be that they have an uncle in Israel. What a blessing!

Mr. Myers should take note that generally speaking, people who assimilate do so because of a lack of Jewish identity, not because of it. And they certainly don't seem even remotely qualified to spread understanding to their surrounding cultures.

JOHNATHAN STAV

Petah Tikva.

Correction

The letter "Museum of terrorism", which appeared on Monday, was written by Arthur Freeman, Toronto.

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Forget the creep who lied, cheated

DEAR RUTHIE

RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie,

I am a middle-aged widow, in love with a married man. I met him when he was a bus driver on the route I traveled to work every day. For eight years we had a serious romance.

Then he bought his own taxi, and it became harder to see each other. One day, we set a date to meet, and he did not show up.

I haven't heard from him since. That was eight months ago. He doesn't have my new phone number at work, and I can't call him at home. I still love him and cannot forget him. Do you think someday we'll see each other again?

Morose Mistress
Tel Aviv

Dear Morose-tress,

I can't say whether you will see him again, but I can say that you shouldn't. For eight years, he lied to his wife, and then disappeared, after standing you up. If he had wanted to contact you, he would have done so by now. Even if he doesn't have your new number.

A man who not only cheats on his wife, but doesn't even have the decency to part with you face-to-face, is unworthy of your love. Try to forget him by remembering what he's done to you. And let time do the rest.

Dear Ruthie,

I have a childless aunt to whom I have always been dutiful and kind, partly because I feel sorry for her. My siblings, and even my parents, pay her little attention.

I spent a month this summer abroad, near my family. I was very harried and pressed for time. The only day I could spend with my aunt was inconvenient for her. As a result, my grandmother was annoyed with me, and my aunt began to insist that I rearrange my plans to suit her.

Finally, I did – with great difficulty – but I still endedup being the "bad guy."

Now that I'm back at home, do you think I should write my grandmother, or my aunt, or my parents an angry letter? Where do they come off criticizing me, when I'm the only one who makes an effort?

Unjustly Under Scrutiny
Jerusalem

Dear Under Scruti-niece,

Writing a letter will serve no purpose, other than to justify behavior that does not warrant justification.

Your self-imposed role as the dutiful member of the family has opened you up to criticism from which others are spared. The fact that you were willing to rearrange your plans as a result of reprimand illustrates that you still see yourself in this role.

Rather than putting pen to paper to assuage your rage, put your mind to suiting your own convenience on your next trip abroad.

Dear Ruthie,

My five-year old wailed during the first two days of "gan," well after the other children stopped crying. What does this mean, and what should I do about it?

Awfully Anxious
Ma'aleh Adumim

Dear AA,

What it means is that he hasn't gotten used to it yet. It also may have to do with your anxiety, which he senses.

Give it a little more time, and if it persists, ask the teacher for advice.

And don't be so awestruck by the kids who didn't cry; it's common for such children to have a delayed reaction.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

This boy can fly

BOOKS

JAMES MARCUS

MR. VERTIGO by Paul Auster. Viking. 293 pp. $21.95.

AMERICAN writers are seldom content merely to chronicle the rise of their characters; they like to see them fall, too.

But not many books have enacted this formula so literally as Paul Auster's *Mr. Vertigo,* which tells the story of "Walt the Wonder Boy, the diminutive daredevil who defied the laws of gravity, the one and only ace of the air."

In the hands of Auster, whose previous works include *The New York Trilogy* and *Leviathan,* Walt's feats become the core of a jaunty, rapid-fire narrative. Indeed, this levitational saga contains enough detours, twists and hairpin turns to recall Mark Twain's prescription for the novel: "A book that never goes straight for a minute, but goes, and goes briskly, sometimes ungrammatically, and sometimes fetching a horseshoe three-quarters of a mile around."

Mr. Vertigo begins its brisk, horseshoe-shaped progress in St. Louis. The year is 1924, and Walt is a nine-year-old urchin cadging tips from customers at the Paradise Cafe. One night a mysterious figure named Master Yehudi makes him an unusual proposal: "If you come with me, I'll teach you how to fly... It's not an easy skill to learn, but if you listen to me and obey my instructions, we'll both wind up millionaires."

At first Walt dismisses his future benefactor as one more drunk or pervert on the prowl. But eventually he allows himself to be persuaded, and accompanies Master Yehudi back to rural Kansas.

Here Walt joins what must have been the most politically correct household of the Roaring Twenties: Master Yehudi (a Hungarian Jew), a taciturn Sioux housekeeper named Mother Sue, and a young, physically misshapen African-American named Aesop. And here the master puts his recruit through the levitator's version of boot camp.

Part of Walt's training is benign and subliminal. He receives his first real taste of human affection, human solidarity; he overcomes his racial prejudice and forms a close friendship with Aesop. But the next three years also include a series of frightening physical ordeals: "I was flogged with a bullwhip; I was thrown from a galloping horse; I was lashed to the roof of the barn for two days without food or water; I had my skin smeared with honey and then stood naked in the August heat as a thousand flies and wasps swarmed over me; I sat in a circle of fire for one whole night as my body became scorched with blisters..."

This curriculum is bound to discourage all but the hardiest levitators. It's clear, however, that some sort of spiritual purification is taking place, and at the end of his training Walt makes an astonishing discovery: He can fly! The trick, which he stumbles upon almost accidentally, is one of Zen-like self-effacement: "There were no more thoughts in my head, no more feelings in my heart. I was weightless inside my own body, floating on a placid wave of nothingness, utterly detached and indifferent to the world around me."

LESS ZEN-LIKE, however, is Master Yehudi's eagerness to market his protégé's skills; he's interested in pursuing both kinds of upward mobility. So once Walt has perfected his technique, master and disciple hit the road.

Walt's act has the audience spellbound, and the strongbox in the master's car begins to bulge with cash. Something else happens, too. As the act undergoes further refinement, Walt forms a new relation to his work. "I was evolving into an artist," he confesses, "a true creator who performed as much for his own sake as for the sake of others."

Alas, this induction into the lofty and obsessive world of artistic creation is short-lived. In the days leading up to his Manhattan debut, Walt begins to experience debilitating headaches after each flight. His career collapses.

There are many further zigzags to the plot. This brings us to the structural oddity of *Mr. Vertigo.* The bulk of the novel focuses on the three years Walt spends with Master Yehudi; once this Hungarian Svengali disappears, the pace accelerates exponentially, so that the years between 1941 and 1994 are crammed into 15 pages. This disproportion is no accident: The book is about Walt's ascent to fame. Yet one longs to hear more about his life as a has-been, levitating only intermittently above his own disappointment.

The style, too, is something less than foolproof. For example, although Walt's wisecracking idiom is a winner – and a marked contrast to the author's usual restraint – there are moments when Auster seems to be meeting some private quota of hard-boiled similes ("the world was swimming, undulating like a belly dancer in a funhouse mirror").

In any case, these caveats are admiring ones. Walt's All-American vulgarity is the perfect complement to the delicacy of his flight. And despite the brevity of his career, Walt's performances become a figure for all kinds of artistic creation; his art (as Auster once wrote of the high-wire walker Philippe Petit) is "an art of solitude, a way of coming to grips with one's life in the darkest, most secret corner of the self." Warts and all, *Mr. Vertigo* is a tall tale of sufficient height to become, finally, airborne. (Newsday)



Freshen up with hotel 'day rates'

TRAVEL

BARBARA SHEA

HOTEL "day rates" often are referred to with a wink and a snicker, but they can mean a welcome respite for weary families caught with a few hours between flights.

Even if you're not in need of a nap, it's sometimes nice to relax by a pool or in a hot tub – especially if your airport layover is too short or too many miles from town to allow for any sight-seeing.

Airports tend to be surrounded by hotels that are better prepared than those in other locations to cater to unexpected guests. What's more, rates often are lower across the board at these suburban lodgings than at comparable downtown hotels. Their day rates typically shouldn't be more than half the going overnight rate.

Airport hotels come in all price ranges, of course. If you're in a foreign country and don't see any familiar names, you might have to do some quick shopping at two or three to find the best fit.

You don't need a two-bedroom suite, obviously, if you just want a place to drop your bags, change into your swimsuit or sprawl in front of the TV for a few hours. A modest chain-operated hotel or motel will do nicely in most cases.

If the first hotel you approach doesn't have day rates – or if the price sounds too high – see what you can negotiate.

Explain the situation and the fact that you're a tourist on a budget, not a business traveler on an expense account. You often can improve your bargaining power by rolling your eyes meaningfully toward the hotel next door. This might be all it takes to convey the proper bird-in-the-hand message to win a reduction from a desk clerk who doesn't want to lose a customer to the competition.

Some hotels have special rates midweek or on weekends, too, that desk clerks might not mention unless you ask.

If the standard rates are fairly low to begin with, and the clerk says they can't be cut, see if the hotel will treat you to afternoon tea, drinks or dinner in place of its usual complimentary breakfast since you're not going to be staying overnight.

Also explore the premises for amenities you can make use of: pool, health club, video rentals – perhaps even lectures that might be being held there at the moment.

When a travel layover does allow enough time for a quick expedition into town, of course, it helps to have an advance plan of attack. I hate to discover that I've missed a major attraction simply by not knowing it was there.

The concierge at your hotel-for-the-day should be able to help you get a handle on the area's top sights before you set out. Most cities of any size greet visitors with stacks of free tourist newspapers or current-events brochures, which hotels invariably have on hand, as well. Grab a stack – or buy the local newspaper – and then find the cheapest quick transportation into town. That might even turn out to be a free hotel van to the downtown business district – or back to the airport, where you could catch a bus or rapid-transit train to the city.

You can refine your sight-seeing list as you go, by asking every museum ticket-taker and ice-cream seller for recommendations on how to spend an afternoon or evening. But even before you leave your hotel a proud local resident might offer you a personal tour of the city. (Newsday)

Where tourists can see the sights for free

IF your definition of a bargain isn't just low cost but no cost, you might want to seek out a newly revised travel-book series called "For Free."

The six guides – to Europe, London, Paris, Hawaii, the Southwest and Washington, D.C. – have been updated for 1994 to include seemingly every possible way to enjoy these popular destinations gratis.

Only the guide to pricey Paris expands on the series' promise of "hundreds of free things to do" by including some activities that are merely "extremely cheap."

All the guides contain a mix of offbeat and ordinary places.

London suggestions, for example, run the gamut from urban farms in the middle of the East End to public spaces such as St. James's Park and Hampstead Heath.

The Europe book lists castles and concerts from Aberdeen to Zurich. The Southwest guide includes just about every ghost town in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah in the course of outlining scenic drives and also unearths some anomalies such as the Las Vegas Museum of Natural History and what it says is Nevada's only winery.

Though five authors are represented in the six guides, there's a certain uniformity. For example, each guide has a list of annual free events, maps and information sources.

They're also all logically arranged – London by neighborhood, Hawaii by island and topic (art, entertainment, gardens, historic sites, tours, scenic attractions).

The London and Washington books also offer details on getting around inexpensively via the metro and other public transportation.

And they contain helpful keys denoting if there's a metro or bus route near the free attraction, if the site is handicapped-accessible, if it appeals to children and if tours are offered. This kind of detail would have been helpful in some listings in the other books, as well.

The Paris book has lots of advice on logistics, business hours, telephones and the distinctions between a brasserie and creperie and various other types of dining establishments.

It also tells you how to avoid the lines at the Louvre, where to find Yves St-Laurent on the Rue du Faubourg-St-Honoré and about Paris's "newest public space" – Parc André Citroen, built on the site of a former auto factory.

The Washington guide was no doubt the easiest to compile since almost every major tourist attraction in the US capital is free. If you've got the city's tourist literature you won't find many surprises in the book, which also covers freebies in Washington's Maryland and Virginia suburbs.

The book also illustrates how fast a travel guide can become outdated. It mentions a Washington International Youth Hostel program to provide free room and board in exchange for half a day's clerical work, but when I called for details, a youth hostel spokesman said the program was discontinued this spring.

The "For Free" guides are available in US bookstores for $8.95 each, except for the Paris volume, which costs $9.95. (Newsday)

B.S.

Galilee sites go on-line

TRAVEL TIPS

HAIM SHAPIRO

THREE permanent computerized information stations have been opened in Galilee, with information about performances, special events, festivals, restaurants, museums, hotels and rural accommodation, sports facilities, hiking routes, and archeological and religious sites.

The stations are equipped to provide printed maps and fact sheets in Hebrew and English and are to have outdoor screens which will function when the offices are closed.

The stations are the work of the Jewish Agency, the Tourism Ministry and local tourism promotion organizations.

The contact numbers are: Mahanayim Junction, Tel. 06-935018, fax 06-936635; Gidona Junction, Tel. 06-532047/8, fax 06-732046; Golani Junction, 06-733845/6, fax 06-733847. A fourth station, at Ein Hamifratz, is to open on September 20, Tel. 04-852377, fax 04-852379.

A FOUR-DAY gathering (October 16–19) for retired people, to be held in Eilat, is being organized by Zabar and local golden-age clubs. Prices, which include half-board, entertainment and special events, start at NIS 490 for accommodation in a four-star hotel. Also included is transport from the center of the country in buses that will stop at tourist sites en route.

THE Caesar Hotels in Tiberias and Eilat are offering a Yom Kippur package, from September 13 through 16, for NIS 99, including a full breakfast.

THE Dan hotels are offering executive-class guests in their Dan Tel Aviv, Dan Panorama and Dan Accadia hotels a free tour to Jerusalem and Bethlehem on Saturdays. Guests can order the tour through their travel agent or from the concierge after they arrive.

WORLD Travel Center, a branch of Europa Tours, is offering a series of fall tours to Turkey during September and October. The price of each tour, with accommodation in four-star and five-star hotels along the route, is $680 for nine nights.

The same firm is also offering a week at the Porto Hydra vacation club in Greece for $599, including flights and half board.

CHOOSE your own movie and see it when you want, play your choice of video games, bridge or backgammon, gamble in your own private casino, book a hotel room or hire a car and receive and make telephone calls – these are just some of the options that will be available soon for British Airways passengers.

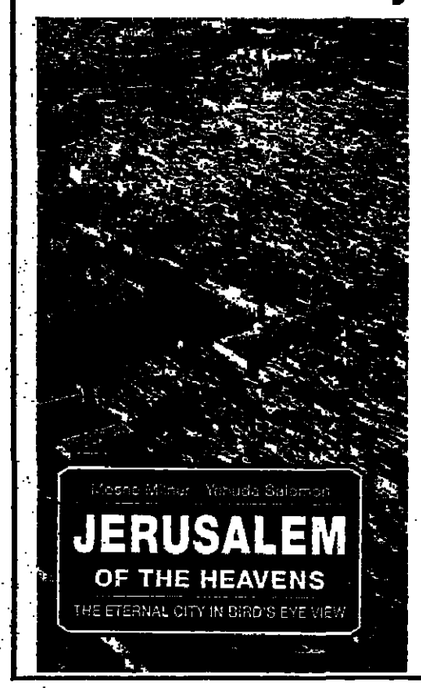
The airline hopes to begin installing its "second generation interactive inflight entertainment system" in its long-haul aircraft next year.

A HOTEL with a kosher restaurant has opened in Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, according to a Jewish Telegraphic Agency report. The facility, Chez David, is in a building owned by the Jewish community and has eight double rooms.

AUSTRIAN Airlines, the only Western airline that flies to Odessa, has announced that it is adding a flight from Vienna to the capital of Ukraine, bringing the number of weekly flights to three.

FOR A night to remember, the London Ritz has a package that includes the hotel's top suite and a seven-course gourmet dinner, with the best champagne and claret. The price is £2,000 per couple.

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THE JERUSALEM POST

BUSINESS & FINANCE

8 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1994

Cabinet to debate anti-inflation package today

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE cabinet will meet today to conclude discussions on the Treasury's and Bank of Israel's joint anti-inflation package and is expected to vote on the plan.

The program calls for curbing ministries' procurement budgets, opening imports of fruit and vegetables when their prices jump more than 50 percent in a month and cutting the planning red tape impeding the rapid increase in available housing.

On Sunday, the cabinet decided to defer the decision to today after heated exchanges between Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat on the proposal to open fruit and vegetable imports.

Prime Minister Rabin established an emergency ministerial committee, which he will head, to circumvent local and regional planning boards.

The boards are holding up the approval of thousands of housing units for construction.



A row between Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur (left) and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat on the proposal to open fruit and vegetable imports postponed a decision. (IPPA, Stein/Harari)

US, Japan return to trade talks, but hopes slim

WASHINGTON (Reuter) - Facing a US sanctions threat at month's end, senior Japanese officials returned to the trade negotiating table yesterday, but the US made clear it expects no deals this week.

"We're going to be forthright," US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor told reporters. "We will be candid, and I hope we can make progress. However, I wouldn't expect any dramatic announcements or breakthroughs in the near term."

Kantor spoke hours before meeting Japanese Trade Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, who opened talks with Commerce Secretary Ron Brown early in the afternoon.

Hashimoto is new to the job and his abrasive style could make for fireworks with Kantor, who is not known for his gentle touch in talks.

That said, the usually outspoken US trade chief was markedly restrained as the talks began.

Asked about the September 30 deadline for progress or possible US sanctions, Kantor replied: "That appears to be a long, long way away as we sit here today."

Kantor also holds talks today in Los Angeles with Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, who wields considerable influence back home in Tokyo.

The high-powered lineup aside, 15 months of fruitless wrangling over commerce and four successive Japanese governments have dashed hopes for a quick meeting of minds.

Kantor said he had made no decision about whether to proceed with sanctions, calling this "a time for listening, exchanging ideas."

Others were more downbeat.

A senior Clinton administration official said the odds of reaching agreement before the sanctions deadline were "pretty small ... it's more unlikely than likely."

Japanese officials, too, were pessimistic.

"There is no reason" to believe any deals can be clinched this month, a Japanese government official said in Tokyo.

Without deals, US sanctions are set to kick in.

Washington is preparing a possible sanctions list under both the Super 301 and Title VII US trade laws should no deals emerge. The broad lists – yet to be narrowed down – cover everything from glass to public procurement to cars.

"We have laid out options, but we haven't had a very senior, protracted discussion about it," said the senior administration official.

The threat of sanctions has financial markets on edge as dealers fear that absent a trade truce, the Democratic administration will resort to currency manipulation to try and cut Japan's $131 billion trade surplus.

The White House denies any such policy.

Yet the senior official conceded that reaction in financial markets was "a worry," since any dollar drop could boost interest rates and feed perceptions of US weakness in the runup to the crucial November elections.

"The market is clearly relevant, and we clearly think the value of the dollar is too low," he said. "But we believe that we can manage that as long as we deal with quite specific problems in quite specific sectors."

Three distinct areas are currently under negotiation – cars and car parts, insurance and public procurement.

Hopes for an auto deal this month are all but dead, leaving the lion's share of the trade imbalance untouched.

Whatever hopes linger for progress rest with the other two areas, if – and only if – both sides can finally come up with a way to measure how far Japan opens its markets without boxing it into market-share targets.

"Our experience with the Japanese has been that whatever progress comes, usually comes as deadlines approach," Brown said earlier this week.

The last window to avert a flare-up comes late this month, when Kono plans to discuss trade, among other issues, with President Clinton during unrelated UN meetings.

Lehman leads new round of Wall St. layoffs

NEW YORK (Reuter) – Brokerage Lehman Bros. Holdings Inc. is cutting jobs, and other Wall Street firms may follow suit if business does not pick up soon, analysts and executives said.

A Wall Street source said yesterday Lehman is in the process of trimming 300 jobs. The company had a peak of around 9,400 employees in 1993, and started this year with 9,300. At the end of June, it was down to 8,950.

Lehman's latest cuts were across the board, affecting managing directors, senior vice presidents and vice presidents, as well as lower levels in the company.

Lehman officials would only confirm the reductions carried out through the end of June.

The round of layoffs are only in Lehman's US operations, the source said, because overseas markets are growing.

Analysts said the cuts at Lehman could be followed by other major Wall Street firms if the weak pace of business fails to strengthen.

The culprit has been higher interest rates, which have led to steep losses in the bond market. Trading volume in stocks and bonds has also fallen off, meaning less activity for traders.

The one bright spot on Wall Street has been mergers and acquisitions, with bankers scrambling to keep up with the deals in health care, media, telecommunications and cable television.

But the merger activity hasn't been strong enough to keep Wall Street firms spinning profits.

Analyst Perrin Long of First of Michigan said New York Stock Exchange member firms lost $404 million in the second quarter, compared with a $1.5 billion profit a year ago.

It was the largest quarterly loss for the industry since a $1.7b. loss in the fourth quarter of 1987, the time of the stock market crash.

A spokesman at Smith Barney, the brokerage owned by Travelers Inc., said following some cuts earlier this year there are no plans for further layoffs. Smith Barney trimmed 150 jobs from a total work force of 28,000.

Other Wall Street firms said they had no immediate plans for layoffs at the moment, but analysts stressed that could change if the weak business environment persists.

Critics blast planned Disney park in Virginia

WASHINGTON (Reuter) – Opponents of a planned Disney theme park in rural Virginia predicted yesterday that the controversial entertainment complex would cause traffic jams and force the government to control road use.

Officials of a group called "Citizens Against Gridlock" also asserted at a news conference that thousands of cars going to the park in Haymarket, 60 kilometers west of Washington, would threaten air quality in a scenic region known for horse farms, civil war battlefields and other historic sites.

They drew a grim picture of traffic congestion and claimed this could lead to taxes, fees and mandatory car pools to restrain vehicle use and pollution.

"By adding thousands of automobiles to the region's highways, the Disney development will make it significantly harder for the Washington metropolitan region to achieve federal ozone standards as required by the Clean Air Act," said Michael Replogle of the Environmental Defense Fund, who attended the news conference.

Asked to reply a Disney spokeswoman said "it is unfortunate that the same people who don't want gridlock are continuing it by trying to halt much needed road improvements in the region."

The Virginia state legislature has approved a $163 million package of road improvements and other development funds for the project, whose many backers in the state predict it will boost local revenues and employment.

Disney officials have said they will permit no more than an average of about 38,500 cars a day into the park.

Yesterday's dispute was just another skirmish involving one of several coalitions of environmentalists, historians and landowners fighting the Walt Disney Company's plans to locate a $650m. historical theme park in the heart of an area rich with Revolutionary and Civil War lore.

But despite opposition to "Disney's America," as it will be called, the local county government is expected to approve the project within the next 60 days, opponents concede.

If approval is given, construction could start next year. The park, along with golf courses and homes, is expected to open in 1998.

A regional government planning organization representing Virginia, Maryland and Washington, DC officials is also expected to approve a long-term regional development plan, including the Disney project on September 21.



Mary Pat Smith of Decatur, Illinois (second from left) is honored yesterday at Walt Disney World as the one billionth guest worldwide of Walt Disney theme parks since the first one opened in Anaheim, California in 1955. (AP)

Japan's cautious policymakers agree recession is over

TOKYO (Reuter) – Japan's cautious policymakers at last all agreed yesterday that a three-and-a-half-year-old recession was over and not even the strong yen could derail the economic recovery.

But they said the recovery was unlikely to be dramatic and needed to be watched and nurtured carefully.

Their low-key message was delivered on a day when the Japanese stock market fell to a four-month low and soon after an international report showed the United States had replaced Japan as the world's most competitive nation.

"Japan's current economic climate resembles the sun rising on a cloudy day," Economic Planning Agency (EPA) Minister Masahiko Komura told reporters in the western city of Osaka.

"But I can't say when the sun will actually rise above the clouds," Jiji news agency quoted Komura as adding.

The EPA is set to formally declare a long-awaited end to the recession tomorrow when it releases its regular monthly report on Japan's economic outlook.

The Bank of Japan declared economic recovery was under way on Tuesday in its Tankan quarterly survey of business conditions.

Bank Governor Yasushi Mieno in comments on Wednesday even dismissed the possibility that the strong yen, the usual threat to Japan's export-oriented economy, could significantly hold back the economy.

"Since overseas economies are gaining momentum, it seems [Japan's economy] is overcoming the negative effects [of the yen's rise]," Mieno told a news conference.

Komura said that in the EPA's monthly economic outlook to be released on Friday, he does not plan to say there has been a sunrise in Japan's economy, but added that "it could be interpreted that way depending on the expression."

Analysts said the EPA had been particularly cautious in pronouncing itself on recovery prospects after having got burned in July 1993, when it prematurely declared an end to the recession.

It was forced to withdraw the statement later as the economy worsened due to the yen's rapid rise and an unusually cool summer last year.

But this time the EPA has regained confidence about the economy, because an unusually hot summer and tax refunds set off a boom in consumer purchases of air conditioners, cars, and summer clothes, helping companies reduce excess inventories.

Mieno said that corporations are better able to ride out the strong yen than a year ago because of emerging economies overseas which were buying more Japanese products, also helping to cut inventories further.

But the governor warned foreign exchange dealers that the present "condition" of currencies, including market speculation, was overdone.

"At present, currencies are regaining some stability, but we still need to monitor their future trends as well as their effects on the real economy," he added.

Mieno said the BOJ has until now continued its easy credit stance to support the progression towards economic recovery, and this credit stance has "finally started bearing fruit".

But few policy makers believe that the economy will trace a "V-shaped", or sharp, recovery. They foresee a bumpy road still ahead because corporations are still restructuring.

BMW announces extra shifts, new jobs to meet rising demand

BONN (Reuter) – German car maker BMW said yesterday it was adding extra shifts at its plants and would create 700 new jobs to meet rising demand.

It said in a statement it had agreed with workers' representatives that it would introduce 11 extra Saturday shifts during the rest of this year.

"We are pleased with the agreement, which will secure the company's competitiveness and create jobs," said works council chairman Manfred Schoch.

The new job creation will mainly happen through the conversion of some temporary posts into permanent ones.

BMW also said its unit car sales in the first seven months of this year were up five percent to 340,000, compared with the same period last year. In the key home market, sales were up 2% to 135,000.

It said its new 3-Series Compact model and new 7-series model, both launched earlier this year, were in particularly good demand.

Industry analysts found the news encouraging.

"It shows that underlying demand is very good in the industry as a whole and the industry is on track for recovery," said Klaus-Juergen Melzner of DB Research in Frankfurt.

The announcement of new jobs was the first such announcement from the German industry in a long time.

"BMW is the first to need more jobs to meet its increased demand," Melzner said. "It's a small signal that there may soon be a turnaround in the jobs situation in the German car industry."

The car industry is Germany's biggest employer, providing jobs directly of indirectly for one in seven Germans.

But the industry, hit by tumbling demand and profits, has been slashing jobs in a bid to regain competitiveness.

Car makers have shed 150,000 workers from a peak of 788,000 in July 1991, the VDA auto industry federation said recently.

Analysts warned, however, that BMW was a special case among German car makers.

"They were first to cut costs and streamline and are the leanest of the lot," said Michael Geiger of Natwest Securities in London. He said BMW's rival luxury car maker Mercedes-Benz was planning to continue cutting jobs into next year.

Volkswagen AG, Europe's largest car maker, would not be creating new jobs for a long time to come since it had its existing workforce on a four-day week, he said. It is working some extra shifts in some plants, however.

"Although increasing demand for VW's cars is leading the unions to want it to move away from a four-day week, VW is still reluctant to do so," he said.

Analysts said that new equipment and production methods at all German car makers meant that employment in the industry would never surge higher as the companies tried to make more cars with fewer employees and thereby improve productivity.

"The process of job cutting will really go on until the end of the decade," said Lothar Lubinetski at Trinkaus Capital Management in Duesseldorf. "The German car makers know they have a lot to do to get competitive with the Japanese."

Analysts said BMW's sales would continue to accelerate in the second half of the year due to the success of the new 3-Series Compact and new 7-series.

BMW said it would launch two new versions of its highly successful 3-series next year – the 318ti Compact, with a 1.8-liter, 16-valve engine and a 318tds with a new, four-cylinder, 143 brake horse power, turbo diesel engine.

It will also bring out V12 engined versions of the new 7-series and the 8-Series.



Reforms in works for costly Italian pensions

ROME (Reuter) – Italy's generous pension payouts are set to blow a further hole in the state's already shaky finances, but sweeping reforms of the system are on the way, Treasury Minister Lamberto Dini said yesterday.

Over a third of the state's annual expenditure is currently tied up covering the cost of paying benefits to Italy's 20 million pensioners, with payouts far exceeding contributions.

"The Italian pensions system is calling out for important corrections if we want to avoid the financial collapse of the whole system in the future," Dini told a parliamentary committee.

The treasury minister proposed slashing the amount of money people were entitled to on retirement, by cutting the annual salary ratios attached to contributions.

At present, for every year of pensions contributions paid, people receive two percent of their salary on retirement, meaning that people who work for 40 years get annual pensions worth 80% of their final year's salary.

Dini said he now wanted to cut this back to "not more than 1.5%", leaving people who had paid contributions for 40 years with just 60% of their salary on retirement.

Dini said the state's pensions agency, INPS, will plunge deeper into the red this year than expected, chalking up a deficit of 73 trillion lire ($46.8 billion) against a forecast 71.2 trillion ($45.6b.) loss.

In 1995, INPS's losses are set to climb to 81 trillion lire ($51.9b.), more than double Italy's entire projected budget deficit for that year.

News of further holes in the accounts unsettled the fragile lira, which dropped to 1,020.75 against the German mark yesterday afternoon from an opening 1,016.75.

"There might be some uncertainty over how [we'll reform pensions] but not over if we'll reform them," Dini said.

Italy has the most generous pensions system in the developed world, with men able to retire at just 61 and women at 56.

Dini has said that on average, people during their working life pay in only half the money needed to cover their eventual benefits.

The minister said he also wanted to boost private pension funds, largely ignored by Italians who rely instead on generous state systems.

Dini suggested scrapping a 15% tax on private funds and siphoning off money which employees are currently forced to set aside from their salary for any eventual severance pay package into private pension schemes.

However the cash-strapped Treasury might face a tough fight with the unions if it tries to force through such radical initiatives. "Any decision that would modify the existing situation on the pensions front would meet with our opposition," Sergio Cofferati, head of one of Italy's three main unions, the CGIL, said on Tuesday.

Most unions have hinted they would be prepared for some sort of reform of the system.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (4.9.94)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.250	4.500	5.000
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.875	4.375	5.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.000	4.125	4.375
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.125	3.375	3.625
Yen (10 million yen)	0.750	0.875	1.125

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (5.9.94)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.3450	3.3900	—	—	3.3673
U.S. dollar	3.0010	3.0433	2.95	3.09	3.0240
German mark	1.9295	1.9567	1.90	1.99	1.9436
Pound sterling	4.6449	4.7104	4.55	4.77	4.6774
French franc	0.5635	0.5715	0.55	0.58	0.5677
Japanese yen (100)	3.0283	3.0709	2.98	3.12	3.0922
Dutch florin	1.7201	1.7443	1.69	1.77	1.7326
Swiss franc	2.2361	2.2685	2.20	2.30	2.3119
Swedish krona	0.3910	0.3963	0.38	0.40	0.3940
Norwegian krone	0.4396	0.4458	0.43	0.45	0.4428
Danish krone	0.4887	0.4956	0.48	0.50	0.4922
Finnish mark	0.5944	0.6026	0.58	0.61	0.5984
Canadian dollar	2.1964	2.2274	2.16	2.26	2.2137
Australian dollar	2.2186	2.2499	2.18	2.28	2.2355
S. African rand	0.8401	0.8519	0.83	0.79	0.8467
Belgian franc (10)	0.9375	0.9507	0.93	0.97	0.9444
Austrian schilling (10)	2.7421	2.7808	2.70	2.82	2.7623
Italian lira (1000)	1.9133	1.9403	1.87	1.98	1.9255
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.21	4.47	4.2638
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.88	0.91	0.8979
ECU	3.6789	3.7308	—	—	3.7094
Irish punt	4.5980	4.6608	4.49	4.77	4.6278
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3228	2.3355	2.28	2.43	2.3374

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Key Representative Rates

		Change
US dollar	NIS 3.0240	-0.16%
Sterling	NIS 4.6774	-0.06%
Mark	NIS 1.9436	+1.17%

INT'L STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	3668.35	-12.45
DJ Transport	1617.62	-7.26
DJ Utils	192.77	-0.92
DJ Comp	1039.09	-5.16
NYSE Indstr	323.47	-0.15
NYSE Transport	248.74	-0.74
NYSE Comp	259.76	-0.33
S&P 100	435.44	-0.59
S&P Spot Index	470.69	-0.87
AMEX Comp	466.24	-0.76

NYSE stocks

	Unchanged	Advances	Declines
Share movements	+747	1019	1104
Volume up (in 1000's)			122020
Volume down (in 1000's)			136800

Other stock market indexes

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	3207	+1.8
Tokyo Nikkei average	20023.8	-370.1
Singapore all-shares Index	577.36	+0.06
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	10165.8	+129.9
Israel Index	118.5	+1.16

Israeli stocks in NY

	Last	Change
NYSE / AMEX		
Ara is Pap	47	+0.5
Ampal A	9	+0.125
Aryt	2.75	0
BioTechnology	2.4375	+0.0938
Cannel Coal	9.125	+0.125
Frutarom (electrochem)	3.875	0
Elscint	2.375	-0.125
Elz Laoud	6.5	+0.125
Elz Laoud A	7.25	0
Lasser T.	5.25	0
PEC	28.125	+0.625
Tadiran	24	+1
NASDAQ / over-the-counter		
Aladdin	9.5	+0.25
4TH. Dimension	6.625	-0.125
Ampal 6.5	28	0
BVR	5	0
Converter	10.125	+0.125
Data (Defense)	7	0
ECI	18.25	+0.5
Edunetics	5	-0.375
Edu-Soft	12.375	+0.375
Elscint Fuel	6.5	-0.75
EFFI	24.5	+0.03125
Elbit	28	-1
Elron	10.75	-0.625
Ested Robotec	0.8125	0
Fibronix	1.3125	+0.0625
IL Systems	3.875	+0.125
Gilat	13	-0.25
ISG	3.5	0
Geotek	10.75	-0.25
Health Tech	2.375	-0.125
Idan	0.625	+0.0625
ISI	3.75	+0.125
Indigo	18.25	+0.25
Interphase	0	0
Intrusion	2.125	0
First Int Fund	14.625	+0.5
Istek	0.5	-0.03125
Lannet	9.3125	-0.0625
Lasoptics	9.25	+0
Magal	6.125	0
Matrix-Al	4	0
Mercury	9.75	-0.25
Magic	10	0
Orbotech	10	0
Orlop Tech	3	0
Radx	3.573	-0.25
Robomatrix	2.125	0
Saplens	3.25	0
Scitex	20.125	+0.625
Silicon	4.21875	+0.09375
T.A.T. Technol	3.75	+0.25
Tiao Vit	6.5125	-0.0625
Teledata	10.5	0
Telegraph	4.5	0
Teva	29.75	+0.25
TVG	2	0

(All listings are closing quotes)

INT'L MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

		Last	Change
Pound:	spot	1.545	-0.0076
	Sep future (CME)	1.5482	-0.0082
D-mark:	spot	1.6515	+0.0086
	Sep future (CME)	0.6052	-0.0033
S-franc:	spot	1.2985	+0.0025
	Sep future (CME)	0.7721	-0.0019
Yen:	spot	99.45	+0.7
	Sep future (CME)	0.010071	-0.2e-005
CanDlr:	spot	1.3868	+0.0011
	Sep future (CME)	0.731	-0
AusDlr:	spot	0.7437	+0.0034
	Sep future (CME)	0.743	+0.0035
F-franc:	spot	5.3261	+0.0055
It Lire:	spot	1578	+4.5
Mfg:	spot	1.7297	+0.0022
AuStrlg:	spot	10.885	+0
Rand:	spot	3.5648	-0.0035
ECU:	spot	1.225	-0.008
Bonds	future	102.25	-0.34375
S and P	future	470.9	-0.5

Libor rates

		Last	Change
Dollar	3 months	5	0
Dollar	6 months	5.3125	0
Dollar	12 months	5.8125	0
Sterling	3 months	6.5	-0.0625
Sterling	6 months	6	0
Sterling	12 months	5.875	0
S-franc	3 months	4.25	0
S-franc	6 months	4.5	0
S-franc	12 months	4.8125	-0.0625
D-mark	3 months	5.0312	+0.0312
D-mark	6 months	5.1875	0
D-mark	12 months	5.5313	+0.0625
Yen	3 months	2.375	0
Yen	6 months	2.5	0
Yen	12 months	2.75	0

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Data 7-SEP-94)

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
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Data communications and hardware maintenance by
ABA Computer Systems Ltd.
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INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Sep) (CSC)	1264	+19
Coffee (Sep) (CSC)	210.5	-1.5
Sugar no.11 (Oct) (CSC)	12.39	+0.48
Wheat (Sep) (CBOT)	376	+8
Soybeans(Nov)(CBOT)	580.5	-2.25
Orange juice (Sep)(CSC)	97.5	+0.8
Crude oil light (Oct)(CSC)	17.91	+0.19

London commodities

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Sep) (LCE)	859	+19
Coffee (Sep) (LCE)	1038	-13
Brent crude oil (Oct)(IPE)	1653	+31

Spot market metals (US)

	Last	Change
Gold: spot	380.25	+2.2
Silver: spot	5.51	+0.05

New York metal futures

	Last	Change
Gold (Dec)	384.4	+2.2
Silver (Sep)	5.5	+0.094
Palladium (Sep)	164.6	+0.75
High-grade copper (Sep)	1.1955	+0.0015

London metal fixes

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	388.4	+0.6
Gold PM fix	389.7	+2.1
Silver fix	561	+7.2
Platinum PM fix	421.5	+1.35

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd. (Data 7-SEP-94)

Major: Schedule for Maastricht not realistic

BONN (Reuter) – British Prime Minister John Major said yesterday that Europe is not yet ready for a single currency, and it was an open question when the performance of economies would converge closely enough to make monetary union possible.

"The timeframe for Maastricht is no longer realistic," Major told *Die Welt* newspaper.

"It is an open question when and if the necessary convergence can be achieved," he said.

Die Welt distributed a summary of the interview ahead of publication today.

According to the Maastricht accord on European economic and monetary union, a common European currency will be introduced by the end of 1999 at the latest.

Oil prices firm as traders take long-term view

LONDON (Reuter) – Oil prices firmed yesterday as the two-month Nigerian strike faded from trader's minds and attention shifted to supply and demand in the fourth quarter.

"Short-term the market was oversold," said Geoff Pyne of London-based analysts UBS. "The [end of] the Nigerian oil workers' strike was already factored in. Now people are looking forward to a tighter market in the fourth quarter."

World benchmark Brent Blend crude oil futures for October delivery reached a high of $16.51 a barrel, up 18 cents on the day.

This was some $3 below levels at the start of August when hysteria over the Nigerian strike was at its peak but well above the $15.60 low touched on August 22, as Nigeria's oil workers drifted back to work.

As expected, the sacked leadership of the two main striking unions officially suspended their action on Tuesday.

The Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA) has projected that oil demand will rise to 69.8 million barrels per day (bpd) in the fourth quarter, up from an estimated 67.2 million bpd in the third.

"We have been trading a very short-term market for months and we are now in transition to a more intermediate view," said Charles Gray at brokers Prudential Bache Futures in London.

The time frame may now shift towards the fourth quarter, he said.

Probe of St. Gobain chairman sends traders into a frenzy

PARIS (Reuter) – A judicial probe into the head of French industrial giant Saint-Gobain sent traders into a frenzy yesterday and revived talk among investors and media on the level of corruption in the country.

Shares in the leading glass and building materials group recovered slightly after losing 4.2 percent on Tuesday, when investigating magistrate Renaud van Ruymbecke questioned chairman Jean-Louis Beffa and placed him under investigation in a case involving suspected illicit funding of a political party.

The stock was by far the most actively traded on the bourse yesterday as it recovered more than one percent of its value to close FR 7 higher at FR 645.

Analysts played down any impact on Saint-Gobain's business of the inquiry, which revolves round a sum of FR 4.4 million ($827,700) paid to a businessman for arranging a water supply contract for Saint-Gobain subsidiary Pont-a-Mousson with the city of Nantes.

The businessman, Rene Trager, said he passed the cash to the Republican party – part of the ruling center-right coalition.

"There is no financial impact for Saint-Gobain," stock analyst Jean-Hugues de Lamaze said.

But he warned that in the near-term investors were likely to remain cautious and noted the persistent weakness of shares in public works companies, notably Cie Generale des Eaux and Lyonnaise des Eaux, following talk in the French media of alleged corruption in the awarding of local authority contracts.

In an unrelated case, shares in electrical engineer Alcatel Alsthom, France's biggest industrial company, have suffered over allegations in an inquiry into alleged over-charging.

The stock took a pummeling in July, when chairman Pierre Suard was held for questioning and placed under investigation.

And shares in engineer Schneider suffered when a Belgian judge locked up its chairman, Didier Pineau-Valencienne, for 11 days while looking into two of Schneider's Belgian subsidiaries.



Saint-Gobain chairman Jean-Louis Beffa is under investigation in a case involving suspected illicit funding of a political party. (AP)

"It's a very psychological reaction," de Lamaze said.

Ken Rumph, an analyst at UBS, said the Saint-Gobain inquiry was "not a big issue", noting that the company is not heavily involved in winning contracts from official bodies in France.

But a misguided perception abroad that France was starting the sort of massive anti-corruption drive seen in Italy's "mani pulite" [clean hands] movement could damage foreign investors' view of the whole French corporate sector, Rumph said.

"The judges have gone too far; there's no going back on it now," as financial daily *La Tribune Desfosses* said of the Beffa affair in a leading article. "It's not 'mani pulite', but seen from abroad, it looks like it."

Yet, Rumph said, any investor who shunned public works firms on the grounds that a subsidiary might have gone too far in winning official backing for a contract, would face a thin time.

"They'd end up shying away from an awful lot of companies in Europe," Rumph said.

La Tribune, while criticizing the spectacular doings of examining magistrates, called for a review of the way public contracts were awarded and funded to clear the air.

Business Minister Alain Madelin, a leading member of the Republican party, said his party also wanted things cleared up.

But he told France Inter radio: "One must nonetheless maintain some form of secrecy while investigations are still going on as... they can leave a stain on great French companies."

Hilton's Belfast project a boost for economy

BELFAST (Reuter) - Hilton International announced yesterday it would build a 187-room luxury hotel in the center of Belfast, showing that an IRA cease-fire had boosted confidence in the economic future of Northern Ireland.

Although negotiations for the hotel were under way long before last week's ceasefire, officials said the timing of the decision showed confidence in the city's potential.

The luxury hotel will cost £17 million, said Hilton, a subsidiary of Britain's Ladbroke Group. Its partner in the project will be Belfast-based Ewart Plc.

Hugh Smyth, Belfast's Lord Mayor, told a news conference the new hotel sparked bright hopes for the future and was an important vote of confidence in the city.

"Today's announcement is a major boost to our city and is to be welcomed by all," Smyth said.

The pending announcement has been front-page news in local newspapers, which say it will greatly help economic confidence.

The Hilton move is the first major peace dividend from last week's Irish Republican Army ceasefire in its 25-year battle to throw British forces out of Northern Ireland.

"Putting Belfast on the Hilton map is a strategic step in our global expansion program and one of which we are proud," said Tommaso Zanzotto, chief executive of Hilton International.

Asked about security, he said "it is an issue in many of the places where we operate around the world, from Algeria to Ireland and to London and to New York."

Belfast's Europa Hotel, one of the city's main landmarks, has been bombed 29 times by the IRA and is humorously referred to as the most bombed hotel in the world.

It is currently undergoing renovation after being wrecked by a 450 kilogram IRA truck bomb blast in May 1993.

The IRA, fighting to push Britain from Northern Ireland, saw the Europa as a symbolic target in its campaign to spread fear and wreak economic damage and win instant publicity because the media usually stayed there.

Zanzotto said he thought the situation had now changed.

"I think that the current events here in Northern Ireland are a very good indication of what can happen in the future and how things will develop on the commercial side," he told British Broadcasting Corporation radio.

"Belfast indicates to us that it is going forward as it develops its commercial base and its industrial and service base. It is going to be an important destination within Europe and within the world of trade and commerce."

FTSE Index closes lower

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) – Shares closed just below Tuesday's closing prices after another session dominated by bonds and the FTSE index futures.

"The funds have all got money, but they're picking and choosing their stocks and their times," one trader said.

The FTSE Index ended at the day's low, down 1.5 points at 3,203.9.

FRANKFURT - German share prices finished official trade with narrow losses, but bounced back from the day's lows.

Dealers said the bourse was very dependent on movements in the bond market. The DAX-30 Index closed down 2.08 points at 2,163.82, but rose to 2,167.68 in post-bourse trade.

PARIS - French shares ended hardly changed after a seesaw day which started with gains of one percent in a technical reaction to losses earlier in the week. But weak bond futures kept share prices on the ropes.

The CAC-40 Index closed up 2.75 at 1,964.20.

ZURICH - Swiss shares closed higher in active trade and dealers said the market had a potential to move higher. They said foreign buying supported the market.

Swiss investors were more cautious and in some cases preferred to take profits when there was opportunity.

The broad SPI closed up 6.31 at 1,757.39.

TOKYO - Bearish sentiment caused mainly by disappointment over the performance of shares in newly listed Japan Telecom pulled down Tokyo prices sharply, and the key Nikkei-225 average closed slightly above the key 20,000 level, down 370.18 points at 20,023.88, a four-month low.

HONG KONG - Stocks closed stronger on continued fund buying but profit-taking dragged them off highs. The Hang Seng Index rose 129.90 points to finish the day at 10,165.87, having been ahead by 194 points.

SYDNEY - Australian shares closed a touch firmer on good volume. Dealers said the market focus wavered between a weaker bond market and the large number of major company results released today.

The All Ordinaries Index closed 0.8 points higher at 2104.4.

JOHANNESBURG - Gold shares ended generally firmer on Wednesday as initial profit-taking was countered by gold price gains. Industrials drifted around overnight levels before posting mild gains towards the close.

The overall index ended up 45 points at 6,054, industrial index up 18 at 6,680 and gold index up 33 at 2,535.

Stocks end mostly lower

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) – Stocks ended mostly lower yesterday as bond prices tumbled, although technology issues moved higher amid optimism about corporate earnings.

Bonds had little reason to rally, ahead of Friday's scheduled release of August inflation data, analysts said.

Inflation worries have hit the stock and bond markets since Friday's employment report, which showed strong growth in the manufacturing sector.

Bond investors don't like inflation, which erodes the value of fixed-income securities such as bonds. Lower bond prices mean higher credit market interest rates, which move in the opposite direction.

Stock investors worry about inflation in part because it increases the likelihood the Federal Reserve will step in for a sixth time this year to nudge interest rates higher. Higher rates make shares less attractive relative to interest-bearing investments and increase the cost of money to companies.

For a second session this week gold stocks were strong, reinforcing the inflation fears. Gold is seen by many as a hedge against inflation.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks fell 12.45 points to 3,886.25.

Declining issues narrowly outnumbered advances on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,036 up, 1,116 down and 727 unchanged.

Big Board volume totaled 290.30 million shares as of 2000 GMT, against 199.86 million in the previous session. Tuesday's volume was affected by US Labor Day on Monday and Rosh Hashana.

Among other major market indicators, Standard and Poors index of 500 stocks, fell 0.87, while the NYSE's composite index fell 0.33 to 259.78.

The Nasdaq composite index, meanwhile, rose 4.62 to 764.10 and at the American Stock Exchange, the market value index fell 0.68 to 455.32.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFr	FFr
MARK	—	0.4173/77	84.16/19	0.8368/69	3.4280/85
STERLING	2.3948/58	—	153.67/79	2.0031/53	8.2064/67
YEN	1.5573/80	0.6502/08	—	1.3029/46	5.3378/55
SFr	1.1943/60	0.4987/92	76.68/73	—	4.0937/07
FFr	0.2915/19	0.1217/19	18.70/75	0.2439/43	—

Prices from 22:00 local time

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Source: CommStock Trading Ltd.

NEW YORK

Name	Price	chg
AMP Inc	72.625	+0.625
ASR Corp	89.75	-0.125
ASA	51.125	-0.75
Abbott Labs	30.25	+0.625
Acme Cleveland	12	-0.25
Advanced Micro	27.375	-0.5
Aetna Life	49.125	-0.125
Affiliated Pub	19.75	+0
Allas	35.625	-0.125
Alumaxium (HF)	23.875	-0.375
Air Prods	48.25	-0.25
Albsto-Calv B	23.5	+0
Albertson's	26.125	+0.625
Alcan Aluminium	25.75	+0.125
Alco Standard	63.75	-0.375
Alex & Alex	20.5	-0.25
Allegheny Power	21.125	-0.375
Allied Signal	37.25	-0.25
Alcoa	62.5	-0.75
Amax	29.125	-1.125
Amdahl Corp	9.125	-0.375
Amerada Hess	50	+0.875
Amer Brands	36.375	-0.125
Amer Cyanamid	56.75	-0.125
Amer El Power	30.625	-0.125
Amer Express	29.375	-0.5
Amer Gen Corp	29.375	-0.375
Amer Greeting	28.875	-0.125
Amer Home Pr	59.375	+0
Amer Int'l	93	+0.875
Amer Int'l Ins	80.5	-0.5
Amer Stores	34.625	-0.25
Amer T & T	54.5	-0.125
Amestech	41	-0.5
Ameritech Inc	55.625	+0.125
Amoco	68.625	+0.75
Analog Devices	32.875	+1.75
Anheuser-Busch	52.5	-0.5
Aon Corp	34.875	+0
Apple Computer	36.125	+0.5625
Archer Daniels	25.5	-0.25
Arkla		
Armco	6.5	-0.125
Armstrong World	49	+1.375
Asarco	30.5	+0.25
Ashland Oil	38.75	-0.25
Atlantic Richfld	108.375	+2.125
Auto Data Pro	54.25	+0.5
Autodesk	61.75	+1.25
Avery Dennison	34	-0.5
Avnet Inc	37	+0.375
Avon Products	81.5	+2
Baknon Corp	4.625	+0
Baker Hughes	19.375	+0.5
Ball Corp	28.5	-0.25
Bally	7.25	-0.125
Baltimore Gas	21.5	-0.25
Banc One Corp	34.5	+0
Bankers	58.25	
BankAmerica	49.25	+0.125
Bank of Boston	26.5	-0.125
Bank of New Yk	32.125	+0.125
Bankers Trst NY	71.5	+0.125
Barnett Banks	46.875	-0.25
Battle Mount Gd	11.625	-0.125
Bausch & Lomb	38.125	+0.125
Baxter Int'l	28.25	+0
Becton Dickinson	44	+0.25
Bell Atlantic	54.875	-0.25
Bell Industries	19.25	-0.125
BellSouth	57.875	-0.875
Bemis Co	30.25	+0.125
Beneficial Corp	43.5	+0.125
Bethlehem Steel	22.625	+0.375
Beverly Enterp	13.375	+0
Black & Decker	22.75	+0.125
Boeing	48.375	+0.625
Boise Cascade	39.625	+0
Borden Inc	12	-0.125
Bowater Ind	27.75	-0.5
Briggs & Strtn	76.625	-0.375
Bristol Myers Squ	57.5	-0.125
Brit Airwys ADR	69.375	-0.125
BP ADR	76.25	+0.125
Brit Steel ADR	23.375	-1
Brit Telecom	61.25	+0.25
Brooklyn Union	24.125	+0.25
Brown Group	37	+0
Brown & Sharpe	7	+0
Browning Ferris	31.5	-0.125
Brunswick	22.25	+0
Burlington Nthn	82.5	+0
CBI Inds	30	+0.125
CBS Inc	355.125	-6.75
CMS Energy Corp	22.25	+0.125
CPC Intern	80.125	-0.875
CSX Corporation	74.75	-0.875
Cabot Corp	36.25	-0.125
Campbell Soup	59.625	+1
Capital Cts ABC	93.25	-1
Capital Holdings		
Carolina Pwr Lt	25.625	-0.125
Carpenter Tech	63.875	+0
Carter Hawley		
Caterpillar	65.125	-0.875
Centerior Energy	9.875	+0.125
Centex Corp	28.375	+0
Central & SW	21.625	-0.125
Certain	27.125	-0.375
Champion Int'l	34.625	-0.375
Chase Manhattan	37.875	+0
Chemical Bkg	38	-0.25
Chevron Corp	49.125	+0.125
Chiquita Brands	16.375	+0
Chrysler	48.625	+0.125
Chubb Corp	71.125	-1
Cilcorp	43.75	-0.375
Clark Equipment	70.125	+0.125
Clevid Cliffs	41.75	+0.25
Clorox	51.5	-0.625
Coastal Corp	30.125	+0
Coca Cola	48.25	+0.375
Coca Cola Ent	18.125	+0
Colgate Palmolv	53.75	-0.875
Comcast Corp A	15.9375	-0.125
Comerica Mich		
Compaq	35.5	+0.125
Compute Ass Int	40.5	+1
Computer Sci	44.125	-0.125
Conagra	31.75	+0.125
Cons Edison	24.625	-0.375
Cons Freightways	23.25	-0.625
Cons Nat Gas	40.75	+0.625
Cons Rail	64.5	-0.125
Cont Bank Corp		
Cont Corp	15.375	+0.375
Cooper Inds	38.25	-0.375
Coors (Adolph)	19.75	-0.125
Corning Inc	30.25	-0.25
Cross	25.5	-0.25
Cray Research	21.5	+0.375
Crown Cork Seal	35.75	+1
Cummins Engine	39.875	+0
Curtiss-Wright	35.25	+0
Cypress Semicon	19	+0.625
Cyprus Mineral	31.875	+0.375
DSC Commun	25.75	+1
DQE	29.5	+0
Data Corp	27.375	+0.5
Dean General	9	+0
Dayton Hudson	78.5	-1
De Beers	24.125	+0
Deere	72.375	+0.25
Delta Pwr & L	16.375	-0.125
Delta Air Lines	48.75	+0
Deluxe Corp	28.75	-0.5
Detroit Edison	28	-0.25
Dial Corp Del	22.75	-0.125
Diebold Inc	49.75	+1.625
Digital Equip	24.125	+0.125
Dillard Dep Str	27.75	-0.125
Disney (Walt)	42.25	+0.75
Dominion Res	38.5	+0.5
Donelley (RR)	29.625	-0.25
Dover Corp	55.5	-0.875
Dow Chemicals	76.375	+0.75
Dow Jones	31.625	-0.375
Dresser	20.125	+0
Dreyfus Corp		
Duke Power	37.875	-0.25
Dun & Bradst	57.875	-0.125
Du Pont	59.875	-1.125
E G & G Corp	18	-0.125
E-Systems	42.375	-0.125
Eastern Ents	28.25	+0.125
Eastman Kodak	50.875	-0.375
Eaton Corp.	46.875	+0.375
Echlin Inc	30.625	+0.125
Emerson Elec	60.375	-0.5
Engelhard Corp	27.375	+0.375
Enron Corp	30.375	+0.125
Entergy Corp	15.5	-0.125
Ethyl Corp	24	-0.125
Exxon	80.25	+0.625
FMC Corp	58.75	-0.875
FPL Group	30.375	+0.125
Fasglers Corp	7.125	-0.125
Federal Expose	70.625	-0.125
Federal Mogul	28.125	+0.375
Fed Nat Mtge	66.125	-0.625
Federal Ppr Bd	30.5	-0.75
Fedders Corp	27.375	+0
First Bank Sys	37.125	-0.125
First Chicago	50.375	-0.125
Fst Fid Bcorp	45	-0.375
First Interst	80	+0.375
Fst Mississippi	17.625	+1.125
Fst Union Rity	8.5	-0.125
First Fid City	30.375	-0.625
Fleetwd Enterp	26.125	-0.25
Flowing Cos Dr	28.125	+0.375
Flordin Prog	28.625	+0.125
Fluor Corp	50.75	-0.375
Food Lion Inc	8.25	-0.0625
Ford Motor	26.625	-0.375
Foster Wheeler	39.375	-0.5
Freeport McMor	17	-0.125
GATX Corp	39.75	+0
Gabio Corp	60.5	+0.125
GTE Corp	39.75	-0.375
Gannett	49.875	+0.125
Gap Inc Del	37.25	-0.125
Genstore	13.875	+0.125
Gen Am Invest	21.75	+0.125
Gen Dynamics	45.25	-0.75
Gen Electric	49	-0.375
Gen Mills	55.125	-0.25
Gen Motors	51.875	-0.375
Gen Motors E	37.375	+0.75
Gen Public Uti	28.5	-0.125
Gen Reinsurance	100	-1.25
Gen Signal	33.75	+0.125
Genuine Parts	36	-0.75
Georgia Pac	72.625	-0.75
Gerber Produc		
Gillette	71.625	+0.125
Glaxo ADR	19.25	+0.125
Golden W Finl	44.25	+0.125
Goodrich (BF)	47	+0.125
Goodyear Tire	35.125	-0.75
Grace (WR)	41	+0.125
Grainger (WW)	63.5	-0.5
Grt Atl Pac Tea	23.5	-0.125
Grt Western Finl	18.875	-0.375
Grow Group	15.25	+0
Halliburton	30.5	+0.25
Hanna (MA)	28.625	+0.125
Harcourt	53.875	+0
Harnischfeger	25.25	+1
Harris Corp	47.625	-0.25
Hasbro Corp	42.125	+0.125
Hermax	5.625	+0
Hershey	31.375	+0.125
Hecla Mining	12.125	-0.375
Heinz (HJ)	35.75	-0.5
Hirsch & Peyns	28.75	+0
Hercules	47	+1.875
Homestay Foods	45.625	+0.25
Hewlett Packard	87.75	+0.125
Hilton Hotels	64.625	+0.25
Home Depot	44	-0.125
Homestake	19.75	-0.25
Honeywell	35	0
Hormel (Geo)	22.125	-0.5
Household Int	38.25	-0.875
Houston Inds	34.375	+0
Humana	21.625	+0.875
ITT Corp	79.25	-0.625
Illinois Power		
Imcera	43	-0.375
Impres Group		
INCO	28.625	+0.125
Ingersoll Rand	38.875	-0.875
Inland Steel	41.25	+0.75
Intel Corp	65.25	+1.125
Intergraph	9.4375	+0.0625
Interlake	2.375	0
Intl Flav & Fr	42.125	-0.5
Intl Multifoods	16.625	+0
Intl Paper	74.875	-0.125
Interpublic	34.125	+0.125
James River Va	33.375	-0.125
Jefferson Pil	53.75	-0.125
Johnson & J	48.375	-0.625
K Mart	17.5	+0
Kellogg	54.125	-0.5
Kennametal	25.5	+0.125
Kerr-McGee	48.125	+1.375
KeyCorp	32.625	+0.375
Kimberly-Clark	56	+0.125
King World Prod	38	-0.125
Knight Ridder	51.25	-0.375
Kroger	25	+0
LSI Logic	31.625	+1
Legget & Platt	37	-0.125
Leucadia Nat	27	+0.25
Lilly (Eli)	58	-0.25
Limited Inc	21.125	+0
Lin Broadcasting	134	+0
Lincoln Nat	39.25	-0.125
Litton	38.875	+0.375
Liz Claiborne	21.125	-0.5
Lockheed Corp	75.375	-0.875
Loews Corp	92.25	-0.625
Long Drug Stors	16.75	0
Long Island Lt	15.625	+0.25
Longs Drug Stors	33.625	-0.125
Loral Corp	39.5	+0
Lotus Dev Corp	44.5	+2.375
Louisiana Land	44.25	+0.875
Louisville Pwr	25	-0.25
Lowe's Co Inc	35.625	-0.125
Lubrizol	31.75	+0
MA Comm Inc	7.875	-0.25
MCI Commun	24.125	-0.75
Manor Care	28.125	+0.875
Manville Corp	8.625	+0
Mapco Inc	58	-0.125
Marion Merrell	23.625	+0.5
Marriott	29.5	-0.125
Mrsh & McLn	83.75	-0.75
Martin Marietta	172	-5.125
Masco Corp	28.25	+0
Massmutual Corp	33.25	+0
Mattel Inc	28.875	-0.125
Mapus Energy	4.875	+0
May Dept St	41.625	+0.25
Maytag Corp	17.5	-0.125
McDermott	28.75	+1
McDonalds	27.5	-0.5
McDonnell Dglas	115.5	-2.125
McGraw Hill	70	+0.375
McKesson Corp	102.875	+0
Mead Corp	48	-0.75
Medtronic	95.375	-1.625
Mellon Bk	58.625	-0.375
Melville Corp	37.375	-0.875
Mentor Graphics	10	+0
Mercantile Sto	40.25	+1.875
Merck Inc	34	+0
Meredith Corp	43.75	+0.5
Merrill Lynch	39.625	-0.375
Microsoft Corp	57.5125	+0.875
Millipore	55.5	-0.125
Mine Safety App	44.5	-0.625
Minnesota Mine	54.75	+0.125
Mitchell Energy	19.25	+0
Mobil Corp	92.25	-0.375
Molex Inc	39.75	+0.25
Monarch Mach	9.875	+0
Monsanto	80.75	-0.25
Morgan (JP)	65	-0.25
Morrison-Knuden	17.625	+0
Mortin Int'l	29	+0.625
Motorola Inc	53.75	+0.5
Multimedia Inc	32	+0.375
Murphy Oil	48.5	-0.25
Nacco Inds	62.5	+0.25
Nalco Chemical	33.875	+0.125
Nashua Corp	29	+0
Nat City Corp	28.75	+0.125
Nat Distillers	17.5	-0.25
Nat Medcl Ent	18.75	+0
Nat Semi	17	-0.25
Nat Serv Ind	28.125	-0.375
NatWest Bank	47.875	+0.75
Navistar Int	15.875	-0.125
NBD Bancorp	30.5	-0.25
Network Systems	8.625	+0.125
Neutrogena Corp	36.0625	+0.0625
New England El	31.625	-0.25
NY State El Gas	19.5	-0.375
NY Times A	24.5	-0.125
Newmont Mining	44.25	-0.125
Nicg Mohawk	12.875	-0.125
Nicor Inc	24.75	-0.125
Nike Inc	83.875	-0.25

Aussies upset Pakistan

COLOMBO (Reuter) – Australia produced clinically efficient outcricket to pull off a remarkable 28-run victory over favorites Pakistan in the second match of a four-nation limited overs series yesterday.

Fielding splendidly, and with leg-spinner Shane Warne (3-29) and all-rounder Steve Waugh (3-16) taking the major bowling honors, Australia defended its moderate 50 overs total of 179 for seven magnificently.

Australia, led by new captain Mark Taylor in the opening game of a two-month tour, restricted World Cup holders Pakistan to 151 for nine in their 50 overs.

The turning point for Pakistan came in the 25th over when opener Saeed Anwar, who was batting with great freedom, was forced to retire hurt with a hamstring injury to his right leg.

Pakistan at that stage was 80 for two, with Anwar seven short of his half-century after having hit off-spinner Tim May for a six and a four in one over.

When Anwar returned to resume his innings with a runner, Pakistan had slumped to 124 for five in 41 overs.

Pakistan's chances rested heavily on Anwar and captain Salim Malik, but Steve Waugh's medium pace claimed both in successive deliveries during his final over to set up Australia's stunning success.

Anwar, handicapped by his injury, hardly moved his feet as he on-drove uppishly, only to be caught by Glenn McGrath at mid-wicket. He made the top score of 46 off 79 balls with one six and five fours.

Chinese women nab 6 swim titles in world c'ships

ROME (AP) – China's women set another world record and collected three more gold medals at the World Swimming Championships yesterday to take their tally to six titles in the pool.

The 400-meters freestyle relay quartet of Le Jingyi, Shan Ying, Le Ying and Lu Bin swam 3 minutes 37.91 seconds to slice 1.55 off the 2-year-old mark set by the US at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992.

China's He Cihong won the 100 backstroke and Yang Aihua romped to victory in the 400 freestyle from unfavored lane one.

Russia won two golds and the Americans picked up three silver and two bronze medals as the three swimming superpowers dominated the third's day's swimming.

Alex Popov scored an almost leisurely victory in the 100 freestyle and Vladimir Selkov triumphed in a championship record time in the 200 backstroke.

American silver medalists were Gary Hall, second to Popov, Cristina Teuscher, second to Yang, and the 400 freestyle relay team. Bronze medalists were Barbara Bedford in the 100 backstroke and Royce Sharp in the men's 200 backstroke.

Popov apart, however, the other world record holders in action flopped.

Janet Evans, one of the greatest long-distance freestylers of all time, placed fifth in the 400 final and Krisztina Egerszegi, Hungary's triple Olympic gold medalist in Barcelona, also placed fifth in the 100 backstroke.

Popov, however, produced a masterful 100 freestyle performance.

The man who broke Matt Biondi's world mark at Monte Carlo in June cruised to victory after turning second to Hall in 23.48.

It was almost like Biondi himself as the Russian's slow, seemingly effortless stroke with far less splash than his rivals enabled him to slice through the water apparently with ease.

The others chased desperately but got nowhere near at the final touch. Popov clocked 49.12, still better than anyone else this year but well outside the world mark of 48.21 he set at Monte Carlo.

Hall touched in 49.41, almost a second slower than Biondi's best, and third place Brazilian Gustavo Borges, Olympic silver medalist, was third in 49.52.

Another American, Jon Olsen, who was slowest of the eight qualifiers, placed fourth in 49.90.

Also yesterday, Israel's Yoav Bruck finished seventh in heat No. 9 of the men's 100m freestyle with a time of 50:81. He failed to qualify for the final.

Israel's second entry, Alexei Bazarov, also failed to advance, finishing fifth in heat No. 6 of the 100m breastroke with a time of 1;03.50.

Sampras upset; Graf reaches semis

NEW YORK (AP) – So exhausted he was close to passing out on court, two-time US Open champion Pete Sampras stumbled out in the fourth round Tuesday against Jaime Yzaga.

Sampras had a blister the size of a quarter on his big right toe that caused him pain, but it was sheer fatigue that slowed him to a crawl in a 3-6, 6-3, 4-6, 7-6(7-4), 7-5 loss.

"He hit the wall," Dr. David Cooper said of Sampras' utter exhaustion.

Sampras was idled for six weeks because of an ankle injury going into the Open, and his lack of conditioning showed.

"You need to play matches, and you can't get that on an exercise bike," said Sampras' coach, Tim Gullikson. "I've never seen Pete pack it in and I can't fault his effort here today. After the third set, he looked like he was going to pass out."

It was the first time since seedings began in the US championships in 1927 that none of the top three men reached the quarters. It was also the second time Yzaga beat Sampras at the Open, knocking him out in the first round in 1988, also in five sets.

Sampras, winner of four of the last five Grand Slams, played parts of this match as if he were slogging through mud, while Yzaga bounced around like a rubber ball.

The blister was only the latest foot problem for Sampras since he switched sneakers to a specially designed, super-duper new model for $18 million or so, courtesy of Nike.

He sprained his right ankle at Wimbledon and developed tendinitis in his left ankle at the Davis Cup, sidelining him since mid-July until the start of the Open. A few days ago, the nail on one toe cut into another, requiring repairs on court. This time, he yanked off his sneaker and called over a trainer to apply a pad to the blister early in the fourth set.

Yzaga advanced to the quarterfinals against Karel Novacek, who beat Javier Frana 6-3, 6-3, 6-7(3-7), 6-3. Also reaching the quarters was Jonas Bjorkman, who beat Joern Renzenbrink 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-7 (3-7), 6-3.

Filling out the men's quarterfinals, No. 9 Todd Martin was scheduled to take on Germany's Bernd Karbacher last night, and crowd-favorite Andre Agassi was slated to meet No. 13 Thomas Muster of Austria.

In yesterday's action, seventh-seeded Jana Novotna defeated No. 4 Mary Pierce 6-4, 6-0 yesterday to join top-seeded Steffi Graf in the semifinals of the US Open.

Pierce, who upset Graf to reach the final of the French Open earlier this year, couldn't control her own power game, repeatedly hitting long.

"I'm very disappointed because I was looking forward to playing Steffi again," said Pierce, who has lost to Novotna both times they have met.

Instead, it is Novotna who will take on Graf, a 6-0, 6-2 winner over Amanda Coetzer in the day's first match.

Novotna, who never made it past the US Open fourth round until this year, moved Pierce from side to side and from the baseline to the net, waiting until her opponent made a mistake. And she did as Pierce committed 37 unforced errors, 15 more than Novotna.

The other women semifinalists are Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Gabriela Sabatini, both easy winners on Tuesday.

Sanchez Vicario beat Kimiko Date 6-3, 6-0, and Sabatini disposed of Gigi Fernandez 6-2, 7-5.

Italy, Denmark humbled in European soccer qualifiers

LONDON (Reuter) – Title holders Denmark and World Cup finalists Italy were held to humbling draws in European championship qualifiers yesterday by Macedonia and Slovenia, international newcomers from old Yugoslavia.

Italy, beaten on penalties by Brazil in the World Cup final, could scavenge only a 1-1 draw in Maribor against new neighbors Slovenia in one of the major shocks of the night when 12 nations made their European debuts in the qualifying series for the 1996 finals in England.

Slovenia led through a 13th-minute goal from Sasa Udovic, but Alessandro Costacurta equalized two minutes later in the group four game.

The Italians, looking lead-footed and clumsy, were fortunate to escape with a draw against inspired opponents who had a second-half effort scooped off the line.

Denmark, winners two years ago in Sweden when they were substitute entrants for the banned Yugoslavia, needed a goal three minutes from time by Flemming Povlsen to rescue a point in the Macedonian capital Skopje.

Mitko Stojkovski had put the home side ahead after four minutes on an historic night for the former Yugoslav state which saw their under-21 team thrash the Danes 5-3.

Norway, who knocked 10 goals past San Marino almost to the day two years ago to start its successful World Cup qualifying campaign, needed a last-gasp goal to squeeze a 1-0 home win over newcomers Belarus.

The former Soviet Union state held out in the group five encounter until substitute Geir Frigaard scored an 88th minute winner as Norway suffered a taste of their own medicine against a defensively-minded side.

In another shock, Lithuania won 2-0 against fancied Ukraine in Kiev in a group four showdown between two former Soviet states.

Spain was made to struggle to take all three points away from Cyprus, with two first-half goals from Francicso Higuera enough for a 2-1 win.

Belgium also found the going tough against another of the debutants, grabbing a 2-0 home win thanks to a fourth-minute own goal from Yervand Krbashian and a 73rd minute strike from Marc Degryse.

The Faroe Islands, one of two debutants in the last qualifying series, failed to repeat their shock of four years ago when they beat Austria. They went down 5-1 at home to Greece.

World Cup quarter-finalists the Netherlands began their campaign for a place in the 16-team finals with a comfortable 4-0 win over Luxembourg, Ronald de Boer scoring twice and Bryan Roy and Wim Jonk grabbing one apiece.

In Israel's group 1 yesterday, Miodrag Belodedici and Dan Petrescu each scored to help host Romania to a 3-0 win over Azerbaijan.

Belodedici's and Petrescu's goals seemed in part an effort to repay fans for their missed penalty kicks that allowed the Swedes to beat Romania 5-4 in this summer's World Cup quarterfinals.

Belodedici got his goal in the 43rd minute, and Petrescu scored in the 58th. Florin Raducioiu sealed the win with a goal in the 87th minute.

In another group 1 game, host Slovakia drew 0-0 with France.

European Nations' Championship qualifying group 1

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts.
Romania	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Israel	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
France	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Slovakia	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Poland	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Azerbaijan	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

Rishon whips Herzliya

JOEL GORDIN

HOST Maccabi Rishon Lezion wiped out a double-digit deficit to beat Bnei Herzliya 82-72 last night in second-round action of basketball's National League.

Herzliya had control through most of the first half with their sharpshooters Gilad Katz and John Hudson in sync with playmakers Koren Amisha and Rotem Ehrlich.

The second half, however, was all Rishon, and the name of their game was Gerald Paddio. The former NBA player scored 32 points including five of eight three pointers.

Rishon's second American, James Gully, was no slouch either, with 16 points and 14 rebounds. They were backed up by former Hapoel Jerusalemite Danny Gott who scored 12 points while taking over the point guard role.

For Herzliya, Katz had 21, Hudson sank 17 and Paul Thompson netted 16. The second round continues tonight.

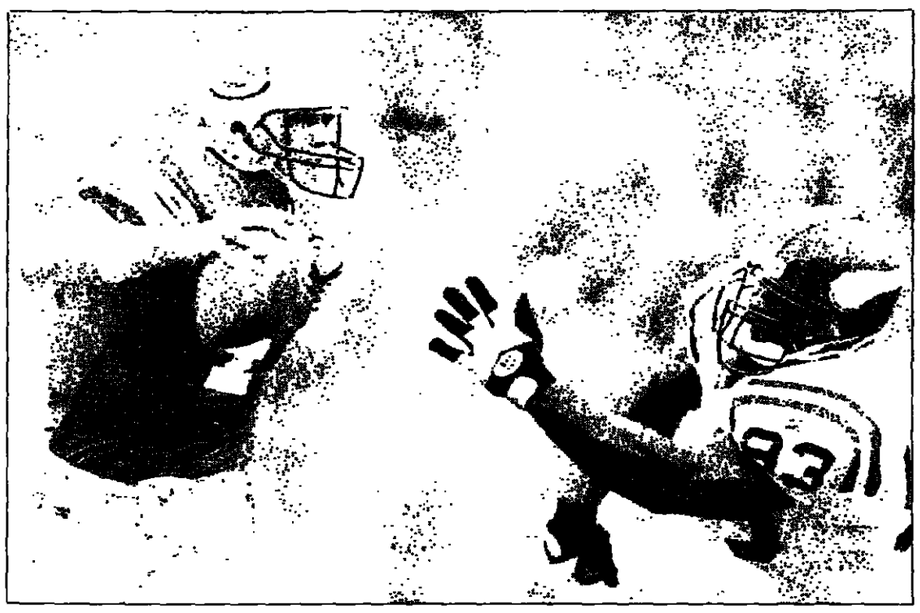
No progress in strike talks

NEW YORK (AP) – Baseball owners have heard again from the players. It's not the kind of contact likely to settle the strike, though.

On Tuesday, just three days before a deadline for canceling the season, owners received a copy of an unfair labor practice complaint filed by the players' union with the National Labor Relations Board.

The union is contesting management's failure to make a $7.8 million payment to the players' benefit plan following the All-Star game. The money was due August 1.

Otherwise, not much is taking place. Acting commissioner Bud Selig, owners' negotiator Richard Ravitch and players' union head Donald Fehr took off most of the day to observe Rosh Hashanah.



SCRAMBLER – Green Bay Packers QB Brett Favre (l) avoids Vikings' John Randle. (AP)

49ers' Rice becomes all-time TD leader in rout of Raiders

SANTA CLARA (AP) – Jerry Rice had little time to savor the record-setting effort that made him the NFL's all-time touchdown leader.

No sooner had he scored his 127th career touchdown Monday night in San Francisco's 44-14 rout of the Los Angeles Raiders than the 49ers wide receiver was caught up again in the Joe Montana-Steve Young rivalry.

The 49ers travel to Kansas City next Sunday for their first confrontation ever with Montana. He led San Francisco to four Super Bowl wins in the 1980s before losing his job to Young and joining the Chiefs in a 1992 trade.

Montana and Rice connected on 55 touchdown passes. Young and Rice have hooked up for scores 49 times, including two against the Raiders.

The first came on a 69-yard bomb from Young. Rice then made like a running back to pull into a tie with Brown, scoring on a 23-yard reverse and set the record with 4:05 to go when he outjumped Albert Lewis for the ball and tumbled into the end zone.

Teammates rushed to congratulate Rice, and fittingly the celebration took place in the end zone. Rice was overcome emotion.

"He was crying; he deserved to cry," running back Ricky Watters said. "He worked so hard for this. He wanted it. That's how he was able to score on that reverse. That's how he was able to go up for that last ball and get it."

Colts 45, Oilers 21

In Sunday's action, Marshall Faulk rushed for 174 yards and scored three touchdowns in his pro debut, giving revamped Indianapolis a victory as the NFL opened its 75 season.

It was the first regular-season loss for the Oilers in 12 games.

Faulk, the second overall pick in the college draft, ran for touchdowns of 1, 2 and 11 yards and had 23 carries for 143 yards. He added one reception for 31 yards.

All six Indianapolis touchdowns were by players who joined the team since the end of last season. Linebacker Tony Bennett, a free agent from Green Bay, returned a fumble 75 yards for another touchdown, and former Bears quarterback Jim Harbaugh passed for two touchdowns to Floyd Turner, a free agent from New Orleans.

Lions 31, Falcons 28 (OT)

Jason Hanson overcame a leg cramp to kick a 37-yard field goal in overtime to beat the visiting Falcons in June Jones' coaching debut for Atlanta.

Lions tied it 28-28 on a 15-yard pass from Mitchell to Anthony Carter with 30 seconds left. Hanson's kickoff dribbled to Alton Montgomery, who scooped it up and rambled 37 yards to the Atlanta 44. Norm Johnson's try on a 52-yard field goal sailed wide right as time expired.

Seahawks 28, Redskins 7

Rick Mirer led three scoring drives to give visiting Seahawks coach Tom Flores his 100th pro victory and spoil Norv Turner's debut with the Redskins. Mirer completed 17 of 28 passes for 183 yards and one touchdown, and Chris Warren rushed for 100 yards and scored two touchdowns.

Chiefs 30, Saints 17

Joe Montana improved to 10-0 in the New Orleans Superdome, throwing two touchdowns and completing 24 of 33 for 315 yards.

Kansas City totally dominated the first half, with two touchdowns and a field goal on its first three possessions. The Chiefs had the ball for 18:16 and outrushed New Orleans 86 yards to 16. Jim Everett, making his first regular-season start with the Saints, completed 26 of 37 passes for 325 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions.

Packers 16, Vikings 10

Sterling Sharpe returned a day after threatening a walkout and caught a 14-yard touchdown pass for host Green Bay, who agreed to adjust his contract.

Sharpe caught seven passes for a game-high 53 yards, including the toss from Brett Favre that gave Green Bay a 10-0 lead in the second quarter.

Packers safety George Teague intercepted two of Warren Moon's passes, spoiling his debut with the Vikings at Lambeau Field.

Giants 28, Eagles 23

Dave Meggett returned a punt 68 yards for a touchdown, ran 26 yards for another and recovered a fumble to set up another as host New York capitalized on early errors by the Eagles. The Eagles never got closer than the final margin when Randall Cunningham – 20 of 39 for 344 yards – hit Calvin Williams on a 10-yard touchdown pass with 1:17 to play.

Dolphins 39, Patriots 35

Dan Marino threw five touchdown passes, including three to Irving Fryar and the 300th of his career.

It was the sixth time that Marino, playing his first game since injuring his Achilles' tendon last season, has thrown five or more touchdown passes in a game and the first time since November 27th, 1988.

Marino completed 23 of his 42 passes for 473 yards and one interception. Fryar caught five balls for a career-best 211 yards. Both yardage performances were the second-best opening-day efforts in NFL history.

Cowboys 26, Steelers 9

Emmitt Smith rushed for 171 yards and one TD on 31 carries and rookie Chris Boniol kicked four field goals to lead host Dallas to victory in the head coaching debut of Barry Switzer.

Dallas' Troy Aikman completed 21-of-32 passes for 245 yards and one touchdown.

Michael Irvin had eight receptions for 139 yards.

Jets 23, Bills 3

Nick Lowery kicked three field goals as visiting New York held Thurman Thomas to five yards on seven carries.

It was only New York's second win in the last 14 meetings against Buffalo and marked the successful regular season debut of New York head coach Pete Carroll.

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct.	Pf	Pa
Indianapolis	1	0	0	1.000	45	21
Miami	1	0	0	1.000	39	35
N.Y. Jets	1	0	0	1.000	23	3
Buffalo	0	1	0	.000	3	23
New England	0	1	0	.000	35	39
Central						
Cleveland	1	0	0	1.000	28	20
Cincinnati	0	1	0	.000	20	28
Houston	0	1	0	.000	21	45
Pittsburgh	0	1	0	.000	9	26
West						
Kansas City	1	0	0	1.000	30	17
Seattle	1	0	0	1.000	28	7
Denver	0	1	0	.000	34	37
LA Raiders	0	1	0	.000	14	44
San Diego	1	0	0	1.000	37	34

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct.	Pf	Pa
Dallas	1	0	0	1.000	26	9
N.Y. Giants	1	0	0	1.000	28	23
Arizona	0	1	0	.000	12	14
Philadelphia	0	1	0	.000	23	28
Washington	0	1	0	.000	7	28
Central						
Chicago	1	0	0	1.000	21	9
Detroit	1	0	0	1.000	31	28
Green Bay	1	0	0	1.000	16	10
Minnesota	0	1	0	.000	10	16
Tampa Bay	0	1	0	.000	9	21
West						
San Francisco	1	0	0	1.000	44	14
LA Rams	1	0	0	1.000	14	12
Atlanta	0	1	0	.000	28	31
New Orleans	0	1	0	.000	17	30

MONDAY'S RESULTS:
San Francisco 44, LA Raiders 14
SUNDAY'S RESULTS:
Detroit 31, Atlanta 28 (OT)
Cleveland 28, Cincinnati 20
Indianapolis 45, Houston 21
Kansas City 30, New Orleans 17
Green Bay 16, Minnesota 10
NY Giants 28, Philadelphia 23
Seattle 28, Washington 7
Chicago 21, Tampa Bay 9
LA Rams 14, Arizona 12
Dallas 26, Pittsburgh 9
Miami 39, New England 35
NY Jets 23, Buffalo 3
San Diego 37, Denver 34

Shearer's pair gives England revenge over friendly US foes

LONDON (Reuter) – Striker Alan Shearer scored twice in the space of seven minutes yesterday as England beat the US 2-0 in a friendly that helped to avenge one of English soccer's darkest days.

The Blackburn marksman, taking his international tally to five goals in 11 appearances, ripped through the ragged-looking US defense with a powerful shot in the 33rd minute and a superbly athletic diving header in the 40th.

The score was scant reward for a rampant England team, bolstered by the reapparance of a fitter and lighter John Barnes, that never looked in danger of conceding a goal, let alone losing and that could easily have doubled its tally at Wembley.

But, as far as the 38,629 fans were concerned, it was enough to erase the memory of the two countries' last meeting in Boston in June 1993 when former manager Graham Taylor's England went down 2-0 to the inexperienced 1994 World Cup hosts.

As well as avenging that loss, the victory maintained England's record of not conceding a goal in the four games since Terry Venables took over as coach.

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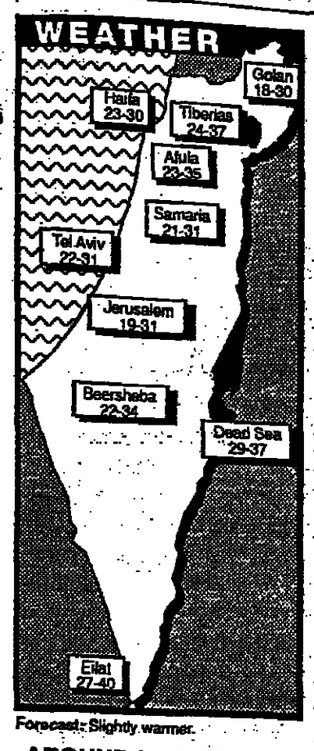
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WEATHER



Forecast: Slightly warmer.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW C	LOW F	HIGH C	HIGH F	
Amsterdam	11	52	19	64	cloudy
Berlin	12	54	19	66	rain
Buenos Aires	12	54	22	72	clear
Cairo	23	73	35	95	clear
Chicago	12	53	25	77	cloudy
Copenhagen	10	50	18	64	cloudy
Frankfurt	14	57	17	63	cloudy
Geneva	14	58	24	75	cloudy
Helsinki	10	50	16	61	cloudy
Hong Kong	28	79	30	86	clear
Johann	08	46	27	81	clear
Lisbon	17	63	28	82	pcloudy
London	12	54	18	64	clear
Los Angeles	22	71	33	91	clear
Madrid	13	64	33	91	clear
Montreal	09	48	16	61	cloudy
Moscow	13	55	22	72	pcloudy
New York	15	59	25	78	clear
Paris	13	55	19	66	cloudy

WHERE TO GO

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HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sherman Administration Bldg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28. For info, call 882819.

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TEL AVIV

Museums

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Pamela Levy: Paintings 1983-94◇Drawn to the City - video documentary on Pamela Levy◇Adam Berg: Perseus' Hysteria - focuses on the museum's function as a viewing space◇A Fence of Cypresses, Fruit of Time, Mr. Sweety - works by Itzchak Golombek, Michal Na'aman, Gil Shachar and others◇ Separate Worlds - selected recent work◇◇16th-19th Cent. European Art◇Six Renaissance and Baroque Paintings◇Impressionism, Post-Impressionism◇Jewish Artists in Europe between the Wars◇Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.◇Sculpture◇20th Cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-5 p.m., Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Temporarily closed; reopens Sept. 16.

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HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

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Tel Aviv: Bass, 66 Frishman, 5237326; Kupat Holim Clalit, 7-9 Amsterdam, 5232383. Till 3 a.m. Friday: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 5223535. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 6413730.

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Kiryat aren: Harman, 4 Simtat Modi'in, Kiryat Motzkin, 707770/3.

Haifa: Kupat Holim Maccabi, 6 Yalag, 351262.

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Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (surgery).

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Jerusalem* 523133	Tiberias* 790111

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Rape Crisis Center (24 hours). Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-529205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Emergency dental clinic (24 hours) 02-632303.

Emergency dental clinic (24 hours inc. holidays) 03-6988840, 050-318777.

FIRE 102

FLIGHTS

24 Hours Flight Information Service: Arrivals only, 03-9731111 (Hebrew); 03-9731122 (English)

CRITIC'S CHOICE

OPERA

HELEN KAYE

THE Consul by Carlo Menotti is the debut production by the new Israel Chamber Opera. The consul, who never appears, symbolizes uncaring officialdom, the endless red tape that interposes itself between people and their needs. The story concerns refugees whose flight to freedom is stopped by bureaucracy, and whose life would be impossible, were it not for a certain magician. The conductor is Leonti Wolf and the director is Haifa Theater veteran Shimon Israeli. Saturday, on the mainstage at the Haifa theater at 8:30 p.m.

PERFORMANCE/ART

HELEN KAYE

AUSTRIAN artist Bernd Fasching continues his 12-day marathon, during which he'll paint 12 canvases, each 2 x 1 meter, in front of the public. Fasching does not leave the space where he's working at any time.

It's called simply *The 12 Days 12 Nights Project*, and Jerusalem is the fifth of the seven cities planned for the project which began in Vienna in 1987. The public is invited to watch, comment and talk with the artist daily between 10 a.m and midnight at the Jerusalem Artists House.



Batsheva Dance Company artistic director Ohad Naharin brings his troupe back to the Suzanne Dellal Center.

DANCE

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

AFTER several performances of *Anaphase* at the Cinerama, the Batsheva Dance Company returns home – to the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv for a mixed program featuring William Forsythe's *Vile Parody* and two works by the company's own artistic director, Ohad Naharin: the mesmerizing *Black Milk* and the mysterious *Arbus*, the latter a ritualistic work danced to the music of Arvo Part. Saturday through Tuesday at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv (9).

TELEVISION

PENNY STARR

SCHEDULES are back to normal, for a while. Channel 3 at least has returned to its normal Thursday night schedule. At 9:40 p.m., *Cheers* is back for a little light comedy and a round or two of beer. That's followed by a couple of cop shows. *Law and Order*, starring Jerry Orbach and Chris Noth, follows criminal cases from the police investigations through the legal system to justice. It's on at 10:40 p.m. and is followed by the gentler police show *The Commish* at 10:55 p.m.

Crime, intrigue and legal matters are the themes of Channel 2's new two-part drama series this evening. *Final Justice*, at 10 o'clock, is about a murdered marine officer whose wife and mother fight over his will. While the wife is investigated as a suspect, the mother tries to track down the murderer.

FILMS

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★★ **FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL** – Crisp as a tuxedo shirt, English director Mike Newell's film works wonders with nostalgia and white tulle. Not only does *Four Weddings* capture the airy, bubble-bath quality of a 1940s romantic comedy, it also retains and updates the catty sexual patter that marked the best of, say, Lubitsch and Mankiewicz. In the lead, oh-so-English Hugh Grant is a bashful, gangly delight: he's all Adam's apple. Andie MacDowell is also likable as the American clothes-horse who trots away with his heart. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children.)

★★★★ **THE LION KING** – Frame by frame, *The Lion King* may well be this year's most innovative and carefully constructed major studio release. An African animal allegory, the film is advertised as Walt Disney's first-ever original story. In fact, the generic fairy-tale plot is the least unique of the movie's elements. What's freshest about *The Lion King* is its majestic physical sweep, and the animator's bold use of landscapes, both real and imagined. (The movie exists in two versions: one with English dialogue and Hebrew subtitles, the other with dialogue dubbed in Hebrew. General audiences.)

CINEMA

JERUSALEM
G.G. GIL **Jerusalem Mall (Malha)** ☎ 788448 True LiesThe FlintstonesGetting Even With Dad 1:30, 4:15, 7, 10 ★ Free Willy 1, 4:30, 7:30 ★ Maverick 9:45 ★ Beverly Cop 3 1, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Beethoven **JERUSALEM**
G.G. GIL ☎ 788488 True Lies • The Flintstones • Getting Even With Dad 1:30, 4:15, 7, 10 ★ Free Willy 1, 4:30, 7:30 ★ Maverick 9:45 ★ Beverly Cop 3 1, 5, 7:30 ★ Beethoven 2 1 ★ Mimbo or the Gentle Art of Japanese Extortion 5, 7:30, 9:30 ★ Thumbelina (Hebrew dialogue) 1, 5 ★ The Client 1, 4:30, 7, 9:45
JERUSALEM THEATER ☎ 610011 A Dangerous Woman 7, 9:30 ★ Rouge 7, 9:30 ORION OR 1-6 ☎ 252914 4 Shamai St. Schindler's List 5, 8:30 ★ In the Name of the Father 5, 7, 9:15 ★ Raining Stones 5, 7:15, 9:30 ★ Nani Moretti's Diary 5, 7:15, 9:30 RAV-CHEN 1-7 ☎ 792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot The Lion King (English dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 ★ Four Weddings and a Funeral 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Speed 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ 3 Ninjas Kick Back The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) 5 ★ Blank Check 5, 7:30 A Bronx Tale 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Serial Mom 9:45 ★ Ace Ventura 5, 7:30 RON 1-2 ☎ 234704 1 Rabbi Akiva St. SpeedCity Slickers 5, 7:30, 9:45 **TEL AVIV**
RAV-CHEN☎ 5282288* Dizengoff Center Speed 5, 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (English dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Mask 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Shadowlands 9:45 ★ Blank Check 5, 7:30 ★ Ace Ventura 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 9:45 CINEMATHEQUE ☎ 6917181 Orlando DEKEL ☎ 5443200 94 Yehuda Hamaccabi St. A Bronx Tale 7:30, 9:45 DIZENGOFF 1-3 ☎ 200485 Dizengoff Center The Three Colors Red 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Baraka 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 GAN HA'IR ☎ 5279215 71 Ibn Gabirol St. Klita 5, 7:30, 9:45 GAT ☎ 6967888 26 Ibn Gabirol St. Four Weddings and a Funeral 2:30, 5, 7:15, 9:45 GORDON ☎ 5236992 87 Ben Yehuda St. The Unbelievable Truth 6:30, 10 ★ Trust 8 HAKOLNOA ZOA HOUSE ☎ 6958941 26 Ibn Gabirol St. Little Buddha 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 G.G. HOD 1-4 ☎ 5226090 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. The Client 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ The Client 7:15, 10 ★ Free Willy 2, 4:45 ★ Getting Even With Dad 2, 5:30, 7:45, 10 ★ The Flintstones 2, 4, 6, 8, 10; LEV North 12:15, 2:15, 5:15, 7:45 ★ The Hudsucker Proxy 12, 5:30, 7:30, 10 ★ Raining Stones 12, noon, 2, 5:15, 7:30, 10 ★ Naked 2, 10 ★ California 2, 4 MAXIM Electric Blanket 5, 7:30, 9:30 RAV-OR 1-5 ☎ 5102674* Opera House Serial MomThe Mask 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Shadowlands 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ★ Short Cuts 5:30, 9 ★ A Bronx Tale 5, 7:15, 9:45 G.G. SHAHAF 1-2 ☎ 5271645 K'tar Namir True Lies 5, 8:45 ★ Schindler's List 5, 8:45 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 ☎ 5177852 2 Yona Hanavi St., The Client 5, 7:30, 10 ★ My Life 5, 7:30, 10 p.m. ★ In the Name of the Father 5, 7:30; 5, 7:30, 10 G.G. TEL AVIV ☎ 5281181 65 Pinsker St. True Lies 4:30, 7:15, 10:15 ★ Beverly Cop 3 5, 7:30, 10:15 ★ The Client 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 TEL AVIV MUSEUM ☎ 6961287 27 Shaul Hamelekh Boulevard The Woman Who Made Sesame OilNani Moretti's Diary (closed from 5; 7:45, 10 ZAFON ☎ 5443966 18 Louis Marshall St. A Dangerous Woman 5, 7:30, 9:45 **HAIFA**
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAM! ☎ 325755 Raining Stones 9:15 ★ Schindler's List 6:15 ★ The Hudsucker Proxy 9:30 ★ Beethoven 2 7:15 ATZMON True Lies 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 ★ The ClientGetawayBeverly Cop 3 4:30, 7, 9:15 ★ Maverick 4:30, 7, 9:15 ORLY A Bronx Tale 7 9:15 PANORAMA Free Willy 1, 7 ★ The Flintstones 11 a.m., 1, 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ Getting Even With Dad 11 a.m., 1, 4:30, 7, 9:30 ★ Thumbelina 11 a.m., 4:30 ★ Rouge 10 p.m., 12:15; 7, 9:30; RAV-GAT 1-2 ☎ 674311 Four Weddings and a Funeral 4:45, 7, 9:15 RAV-MOR 1-7 ☎ 416899/8 The Lion King (English dialogue) 7, 9:30 ★ The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue)The Three Ninja KidsMonkey Trouble 5 ★ Blank Check 5, 7, 9:30 ★ Ace Ventura 5, 7, 9:30 ★ The Mask 5, 7, 9:30 ★ Speed 7, 9:30 ★ The Hudsucker Proxy 7, 9:30 ★ Free Willy 4:45 ★A Bronx Tale 7, 9:30 ★ Monkey Trouble 5 RAV-OR 1-3 ☎ 246553 The MaskThe Lion King (English dialogue) 7, 9:15 ★ Serial Mom 9:15 p.m. ★ The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) The Mask 5 ★ Blank Check 5, 7 **ASHDOD**
G.G. GIL True Lies 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 The Client 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Getting Even With Dad 5, 7:30, 10 ★ The Lion King Tue. 11:30, 5 ★ Speed 7:30, 10
RAV CHEN 1-5 ☎ 711223 SpeedThe MaskA Bronx Tale 5, 7:30, 9:45★ The Lion King (English dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 ★ Short Cuts 9 ★ The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) 5 ★ Blank Check 7:30, 10 **BAT YAM**
RAV CHEN ☎ 5531077 The Mask 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The ClientBeverly Cop 3Getting Even With Dad 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ SpeedThe Lion King (English dialogue) 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ True Lies 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Lion King 5
***BEERSHEBA**
G.G. ESHEL ☎ 274073 Beverly Cop 3 7:30, 10 GIL True Lies 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 ★ The Client 7:15, 10 ★ Thumbelina (Hebrew dialogue) Tue. 11 a.m.; 5 ★ The Flintstones 5, 7:30, 9:45 RAV-NEGEV 1-4 ☎ 235278 Four Weddings and a FuneralSpeed 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (English dialogue) ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) 5
HADERA
LEV True Lies 7:15, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (Hebrew version) 4:30 ★ Speed 7:30, 20 ★ North 5 ★ The Client 4:30, 7:30, 10 ★ The Mask 4:30, 7:45 ★ In the Name of the Father 10 p.m. **HERZLIYA**
COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN). ☎ 6902666 RougeHudsucker Proxy 7:30, 9:30; HOTEL A Dangerous Woman 7:30, 9:30 STAR☎ 589068 29 Sokolov St. The Client 7, 9:30 **KFAR SAVA**
G.G. GIL True Lies 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 10 ★ The Flintstones 5, 7:30, 10 ★ The Client 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ The Lion King 11:30, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 ★ My Life ★ Speed 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Getting Even With Dad 5, 7:30, 10 **KIRYAT BIALIK**
G.G. KIRYON 1-3 ☎ 779166 The Client• True LiesGetting Even With DadThe Flintstones 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★The Lion King 4:45 ★ Ace Ventura 7, 9:30 ★ Thumbelina 4:45 ★ Maverick 7, 9:30 ★ Blank Check 4:45, 9:30 ★ Beverly Cop 3 4:45, 7, 9:30
KIRYAT MALACHI
HAKIRYA Robocop 3 5, 7:30, 9:30 HECHAL HATARBUT ☎ 580526 1 Ben Gurion Boulevard) Beverly Cop 3 7:15, 9:30
KIRYAT ONO
MATNAS In the Name of the Father 8
MIGDAL HA'EMEK
RAV CHEN A Bronx TaleSpeedCool Running 7, 9:30 **NAHARIYA**
HECHAL HATARBUT A Bronx Tale 7, 9:15
NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 404729 True Lies 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 ★ The Client 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ Thumbelina (Hebrew dialogue) Tue. 11:30 a.m.; ★ Getting Even With Dad 5, 7:30, 10 ★ The Flintstones 5, 7:30, 9:45
NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 628452 True Lies 11:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10 ★ Getting Even With Dad 5, 7:30, 10 ★ Free Willy The Client 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ The Flintstones 5, 7:30, 10 RAV-CHEN 1-4 ☎ 618570 Four Wedding and a FuneralSpeedThe Lion King (English dialogue) 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) 5
OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL Beverly Cop 3Blank CheckGetting Even With DadThe Flintstones 5, 7:30, 10
PETAH TIKVA
G.G. HECHAL 1-3 ☎ 9300844 True Lies 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 ★ The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) 7:30, 10 ★ Speed 7:30, 10 ★ The Client 4:45, 7:15, 10 G. G. RAM 1-3 ☎ 9340818 The Lion King 5, 8, 10 ★ The Flintstones 5, 7:45, 10 ★ Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 10 **RA'ANANA**
MOFET Orlando 7:30, 9:30 PARK SpeedThe Client 7:30, 10 ★ True Lies 7:30, 10:15 ★ The Lion King (English dialogue) 7:30, 10 ★ The Flintstones-NorthThe Lion King (Hebrew dialogue)Ninja Kid Kicks Back 5 ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 10
RAMAT GAN
GAN 1-4 ☎ 797121
The Lion King (English dialogue) 5: 9:30, 9:45 ★ The Flintstones 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Client 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ The Lion King (Hebrew dialogue) 5 ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 9:45 True Lies 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Speed 5, 7:30, 9:45 **RAMAT HASHARON**
KOKHAV In the Name of the Father 7, 9:30
RAMLA
HECHAL HATARBUT The Hudsucker Proxy 7:15, 9:30 **REHOVOT**
CHEN 1–4 ☎ 465979 The Client , 4:30, 7, 9:45 ★ The Lion King 5:15 ★ The Mask 5, 7:30, 9:45 ★ Speed 4:30, 7, 9:30 **RISHON LEZION**
NA'AMAN ☎ 941522 Beverly Cop 3 7:30, 9:45 RISHON ☎ 9653230 Angie 7:30, 9:45 G.G. RON 1-3 ☎ 9662175 RougeAce Ventura 7:30, 9:30 HAZAHAV The Client 4:45, 7:15, 10 ★ Thumbelina Mon., Tue. 11 a.m.; ★ The Flintstones 5, 7:30, 10 **RISHON NEW IND. AREA**
GAL 1-5 ☎ 9619689 True Lies 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 ★ Free Willy 7:45; Mon. 11 a.m.; Tue. 11 a.m., 7:45; 5, 7:30, 10 ★Getting Even With Dad 5, 7:30, 10 STAR 1-4 ☎ 9619985-7 27 Lishinsky St. Speed 7:30, 10 ★ The Hudsucker Proxy 10 p.m. ★ Ace Ventura 7:30 ★ A Bronx Tale 7:30, 10 ★ Woman Sesame Oil Maker 7:30, 10 **UPPER NAZARETH**
G.G GIL ☎ 06-561332 The Flintstones-SpeedBeverly Cop 3Getting Even With Dad 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ The Client 4:45, 7, 9:30 ★ True Lies 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 ★ Thumbelina (Hebrew dialogue) 4:45, 7, 9:30

* Tone phone reservations 03-5252244 ** All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

TELEVISION

■ CHANNEL 1

6:30 News in Arabic **6:45** Cartoon **7:00** Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Family Honor – Series about the lives of three Indian families who have emigrated to London **8:30** Beginning Reading – No Secrets **8:50** Relations with Immigrants **9:15** Social Education **9:25** We'll Draw and See More **10:00** Contact 1-2-3 – program on water **10:30** Art **11:00** English: The Kidsongs TV show **11:10** Literature **12:00** Science **12:20** English **12:35** Continents and Nations **13:00** Science and Technology **13:30** Keep Fit **14:05** Fables **14:15** Fairytales **14:30** Home **15:00** Oxoto – local program

■ CHANNEL 1

15:30 Biker Mice – cartoon **16:00** News update **16:05** Three Four Five and a Half – special for Rosh Hashana based on the story by Levin Kipnis **16:30** Naomi Shemer and the children of the School for Arts in Tel Aviv in special program for Rosh Hashana **17:00** A New Evening **17:30** Who's Afraid of the Dark **17:55** Heathcliff **18:15** News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Encounter – current affairs **19:00** News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Brooklyn Bridge – comedy series **20:00** Mabat **20:45** No details available **22:30** Paul Young in Concert – filming of his performance at the Haifa Blues Festival in June **23:00** Late-night news **23:10** Without Prior Intention – part 2 **23:45** Love and War

■ CHANNEL 2

14:05 Spending – consumer magazine for youth **14:30** White Fang **15:00** Yosef the Storyteller **15:30** Double Dare – game show **16:00** The Bold and the Beautiful **17:00** Line to the News **17:30** A Matter of Time **18:00** Thunder in Paradise **19:00** Home and Away **19:30** Be a Man – Game show **20:00** News **20:30** West of Here – documentary series showing reports from the popular American shows *20/20*, *Prime Time Live*, *Day One* **21:00** Rita – A Strange Bird – documentary film on the production of her video clip for her song "Strange Bird" from her new album **21:30** Gov Night – selection from Gidi Gov's program **22:00** Final Justice – two-part drama about a marine officer who marries an older woman, fathers a daughter and is murdered. His wife, a suspect, and his mother fight for the inheritance. The mother also seeks to find the murderer. (90 mins) **23:30** News **23:35** Continuation of Final Justice **23:45** Close to Midnight – short films by Israeli students

■ JORDAN TV (unofficial)

16:00 French programs **17:30** News in French **18:00** News in Hebrew **18:15** Battlestar Galactica **19:00** News in Arabic **19:30** Heart of Courage **20:10** Murder She Wrote **21:00** News in English **21:20** Feature Film

■ MIDDLE EAST TV

13:00 The 700 Club **13:55** Film: Details not available **15:30** Mighty Mouse **16:20** Dangermouse **16:45** Superbook **17:10** Hawaii Five-O **18:10** Rescue 911 **19:00** World News Tonight: Arabic **19:30** CNN Headline News **20:00** Edison Mansion **20:30** Jake and the Fatman **21:20** Law and Order **22:10** The 700 Club **23:00** Special Programs

CABLE

■ FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Local broadcast **9:00** One Life to Live **9:45** The Young and the Restless **10:30** Guests in the Living Room **11:00** I Love Lucy **11:30** Antonella **12:15** Murphy Brown **12:40** Super Bloopers **13:30** Coach **14:00** Israeli Clips **14:10** Thirtysomething **15:00** Topaz **15:50** Knots Landing **16:40** Three's Company **17:05** Love Boat **17:50** Israeli Clips **18:00** One Life to Live **18:45** The Young and the Restless **19:30** Local broadcast **20:00** Antonella **20:50** Falcon Crest **21:40** Cheers **22:10** Law and Order **22:55** The Commish **23:45** Dear John **00:10** Cagney and Lacey **1:00** War of the Worlds **1:50** The Equalizer **2:40** Murder She Wrote **3:30** Remington Steele **4:20** Matt Houston

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 Jeremiah Johnson (1972) (rpt) **12:25** Up the Creek (1984) – teen comedy about college guys competing in a boat race to win girls' hearts **14:00** The Long Road Home (1991) (rpt) **15:35** A Woman's Tale (1991) (rpt) **17:15** Indian movie **19:15** Plain Clothes (1988) (rpt) **21:00** Interview with Susan Sarandon **21:10** White Palace (1990) – romantic drama about a young Jewish yuppie widower (James Spader) who falls for a working class, non-Jewish older woman, played by Susan Sarandon **22:55** Pump Up the Volume (1990) – Christian Slater stars in this teen drama about an anti-establishment pirate radio station **00:35** Enmanuelle I (1974) (rpt) **2:05** A Climate for Killing (1990) (rpt) **3:50** Dutch (1991) (rpt) **5:40** Young Lions (1958) (rpt)

■ CHILDREN'S CHANNEL (6)

6:30 Cartoons **9:00** Cartoons **9:35** Bill and Ted **10:05** Three Little Ghosts **10:30** Back to School **10:35** Back to the Future **11:00** Hillside **11:30** Max Glick **12:00** Saved by the Bell **12:30** Step by Step **13:00** Davis Rules **13:30** Cartoons **14:05** Basket Fever **14:30** Ghostbusters **15:05** Back to the Future **15:25** Hillside **15:55** Step by Step **16:20** Saved by the Bell **16:45** Little House on the Prairie **17:35** Davis Rules **18:00** Cartoons **18:35** Bill and Ted **19:00** Three Little Ghosts **19:30** Neighbors **19:55** Married with Children **20:20** The Simpsons **20:45** All in the Family **21:10** Hunter

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 After the Rehearsal (1984) – Ingmar Bergman directs this drama about the nature of creativity and the connection between art and reality. Starring Lena Olin, Ingrid Thulin and Erland Josephson (70 mins) **23:15** Conjugal Bed (1963) – Italian sex comedy about an older man who marries a young woman who wants to get pregnant as soon as possible. But her sexual appetites have fatal consequences. Directed by Marco Ferrari (87 mins)

■ DISCOVERY CHANNEL (8)

Open University: Science and Nature **11:00** The JFK Conspiracy **12:00** Citizen Carter **13:00** Red Flag Over Tibet **14:00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **16:00** The JFK Conspiracy **17:00** Citizen Carter **18:00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs) **20:00** Extra **21:00** Aida **23:30** Richard Stoltzman Plays Takemitsu **00:00** Open University (repeat of morning's programs)

■ SUPER CHANNEL

6:00 Business Insiders **6:30** NBC Network News **7:00** ITN World News Headlines **7:15** US Market Wrap **7:30** Business Insiders **8:00** ITN World News **8:15** Market Wrap **8:30** Inside Edition **9:00** Super Shop **10:00** Rolanda **11:00** Rivera Live **12:00** Today's Business Live **12:30** FT Business Today **13:00** Today **15:00** The Money Wheel **17:30** FT Business Tonight **18:00** Today **19:00** ITN World News Live **19:30** Executive Lifestyles **20:00** Entertainment X-Press **20:30** NBC News Magazine **21:30** Inside Edition **22:00** ITN World News **22:30** The Tonight Show with Jay Leno **23:30** Real Personal **00:00** FT Business Tonight **00:30** Nightly News

■ STAR PLUS

6:00 The Sullivans **6:30** Neighbors **7:00** Santa Barbara **8:00** The Bold and the Beautiful **8:30** Donahue **9:30** Oprah Winfrey **10:30** Graham Kerr's Kitchen **11:00** Eric's World **11:30** Here Comes the Grump **12:00** Duckula **12:30** Castle of Adventure **13:00** E! Features **13:30** Neighbors **14:00** M*A*S*H **14:30** Crystal Maze **15:30** The Bill **16:30** The Bold and the Beautiful **17:00** Santa Barbara **18:00** Remington Steele **19:00** The Fall Guy **20:00** M*A*S*H **20:30** Fashion TV **21:00** Neighbors **21:30** Knights and Warriors **22:30** The Fall Guy **23:30** Crime Story **00:30** Fashion TV

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:06 Waking to Music **9:00** Mozart: Clarinet concerto K622 (Brymer/St Martin/Marriner); Mendelssohn: Piano trio op 49 (Yuval); Clementi: Piano concerto in C (Blumenthal/Prague SO); Dvorak: Serenade for winds, cello and double bass (St Martin/Marriner) ±**11:20** Gluck: Iphigénie en Aulide overture (Philharmonia/Klemperer); Berlioz: Symphonie fantastique (Cleveland/Maazel); Berg: Lulu suite (Price/London SO/Abbado); Purcell: Dido and Aeneas (Kirkby, Nelson and others) **14:06** Encore **16:00** Etnahta – Revital Hachamov (piano). Chopin: 24 Preludes op 28; Scriabin: 24 Preludes op 11 **18:00** From the Record Shelf **19:05** Evening Sounds – with pianist Arthur Rubinstein **20:03** Clouds, Celebrations and Sirens **23:00** Sounds to End the Day

■ RADIO 1

6:06 Hebrew songs **7:00** News in English **7:15** News in French **7:30** Hebrew songs **8:05** Dial **9:05** It's Open **10:05** Teleradio **11:05** Hebrew songs **13:00** News and program in English **13:30** News and program in French **14:05** Who's Asleep? **15:05** Land and People **16:05** Words that Try to Touch **17:00** News in English **17:02** News in French **17:05** Songs from musicals **18:05** Religious programs **20:00** Evening news **20:50** Bible portion **21:00** Traditional hit parade **23:05** Stories and music

■ RADIO 2

6:06 This Morning – news magazine **9:05** Hebrew songs **10:05** It's All Talk **12:05** Midday – news, commentary, music **14:05** Magic Moments **15:05** Foreign Affairs **15:45** Foreign Press **16:05** The Color of Money **17:05** Hebrew songs **18:05** Today – newsreel **19:05** Hebrew songs **21:05** News headlines **21:15** Matters which haven't hit the headlines **23:05** Two Together and Both Separately **00:00** Midnight Magazine **00:20** Two Together and Both Separately, continued **1:05** Very Live Night **5:05** First Light

■ RADIO 3

Music all day and night

■ REKA

18:00 News in English **18:15** News in French **20:00** News in Russian

■ ARMY RADIO

5:02 Good Morning IDF **6:00** Announcements **6:05** Hebrew songs **8:30** Good Morning Israel **7:07** Seven-O-Seven **8:00** Good Morning Israel **9:05** It's Difficult in the Morning **10:05** Right for the Summer **12:50** Today's Entertainment **13:00** Midday News **13:15** The Heat's Canceled **15:05** Someone to Talk To **16:00** An Hour Before **17:00** Good Evening Israel **18:05** Economics **18:30** The Neighbor's Grass **18:45** Army and security **19:05** End of the Day **20:00** Evening news **20:30** Live basketball broadcast **23:05** This Was the Day **00:10** Night Birds **2:00** We Don't Want to Sleep

■ ARMY ON WHEELS

7:05 The State on the Way **9:05** Hebrew songs **11:05** Sun **13:05** Air Conditioning **14:05** Summer Seeds **15:05** Program with Dubi Lentz **16:05** Driving Wisely **18:05** Program with Lea Oz **20:05** Drive In **22:05** Good Night

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 The most eminent of the French cutting donation (8)
5 Split Oriental flower growing place (6)
9 Gives vent to anger about a politician causing storms (8)
10 Like a number, aim to get rise (6)
12 Mastering sports and running (9)
13 See fit soldier retreating—in retreat (5)
14 A small creature trodden underfoot by a stallion (4)
16 Affecting grief about the United Nations' use of arms (7)
19 No mean individual as a writer (7)
21 Found everyone playing (4)
24 A little debonair energetic woman (5)
25 Serviceable building material? One stands corrected! (9)
27 Such a belief is held by the married (6)
28 Flats for accommodating adults in principle (8)
29 Repeatedly take in the right points by eye (6)
30 Set about doing without cash when scared (8)

DOWN

1 Being in rags, the beggar is hardly flashy (6)
2 Love and possibly dream about one (6)
3 Light-weight article written for show (5)
4 Appearing to understand old Chinese (7)
6 Those in 28 say may be denser, it's revealed (9)
7 No universal remedy (8)
8 Put in a spot, so make up (8)
11 Eager for silver turn-over (4)
15 The restorer sticks a note on a piece of furniture (9)
17 A person offering help as a member of the family (8)
18 Many always set about little beasts (8)
20 Indiscreet artists with aspiration (4)
21 The civic leader on trial put up a fight (7)
22 Swindle quite happily, but make good (2,4)
23 Incarcerated these days for a period of five years (6)
26

Ramon shuts down Histadrut information, communications section

MICHAL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT Chairman Haim Ramon has decided to close the labor federation's information and communications division, in what is perceived by some as another step in his plan to systematically dismantle the Histadrut.

The Histadrut's executive was advised of this decision at this week's session via a printed statement, which noted that the spokesman's office (a section of the division) would be retained, and carry out all the functions formerly performed by the division, such as providing information to workers about their rights, conducting public information campaigns and producing periodicals.

Senior Histadrut sources said this was the first of a number of Histadrut departments that Ramon intended to close down, saying this was part of a campaign to further his political career.

One senior source said Ramon "is exploiting the Histadrut's negative public image and will destroy as much of it as possible as long as it makes him look good, without even pretending to build anything instead."

The source noted Ramon's stated intention to close the *Davar* newspaper unless it is sold, his plan to sell off the assets of Hevrat Ha'ovdim, the Histadrut's holding company and putting a bank lien on the Histadrut's headquarters as other proofs that the Histadrut itself is of no interest to Ramon.

With the implementation of the National Health Insurance Law, likely by January, the Histadrut's income will be reduced by two-thirds, which will require a drastic cut in its activities, sources noted.

The only future source of income the Histadrut has is a potential NIS 50 million to NIS 60m. from Hevrat Ha'ovdim, the sources said. But instead of nurturing that source of income, Ramon is trying to strip the holding company of its assets, they added.

Ramon's drive to sell Histadrut properties has hit a legal snag, however, as the registrar of cooperative associations refused this week to approve the resolutions adopted by Hevrat Ha'ovdim's convention last Thursday night.

The registrar ruled that Ramon's attempt to pass a resolution that would drain the capital out of the holding company by selling its assets and properties, constitutes a dissolving of the company. In such a case, the proceeds of the sale must go to the Histadrut's 1.6 million members, who legally own the properties, and to its creditors.

The registrar also ruled that Ramon's resolutions are illegal because the convention lacked the required quorum of two-thirds of its delegates at the vote, and the further majority of 75% needed to change the Hevrat Ha'ovdim constitution, which forbids selling off the assets, which belong to all of the Histadrut's members.



Three men standing along the Tel Aviv beach on Tuesday perform the 'tashlich' ritual, in which one symbolically casts one's sins into the water. (Ya'acov Shaltiel)

Poll: Over half of Histadrut members are dissatisfied with its performance

JUDY SIEGEL

HALF of all Israelis are not members of the Histadrut, but of those who are, 54 percent say they are dissatisfied with the labor federation.

The figures were among the results of a new Gallup poll released by the Maccabi health fund, which has established its own labor federation for insured members.

According to the poll, conducted in August among a representative sample of 603 adults, 62% said they favored the establishment of another labor organization, while only 19% opposed this.

Of the more than half of Histadrut members who were displeased with the organization, many complained about its bureaucracy, "corruption," wasting of money and failure to defend the workers. It also found that 36% percent of those polled were not members of any labor organization or union.

Half of those questioned were aware of the proposed organization tax to finance the Histadrut. A total of 77% opposed being forced to pay membership dues to a labor organization. Dan Zelinger, chairman of the Maccabi labor organization, said the rate at which new members are joining voluntarily is "breathtaking," and supports the poll's findings.

Bill Clinton prays at Rosh Hashana service

News agencies

EDGARTOWN, Mass. – President Clinton, wearing a white kippa, attended services Monday night celebrating Rosh Hashana and vowed to continue his work to bring peace to Israel and its neighbors.

"I think we have a chance to get there," Clinton said, referring to efforts to bring peace between Israel, Syria and Lebanon. "It is right at this moment in history."

The president and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton attended the packed services at the normally non-denominational Old Whaling Church, built when fishing was a way of life in this New England town.

Their daughter, Chelsea, who had been vacationing with the Clintons on Martha's Vineyard, returned home this week and was attending a similar service in Washington.

Rabbi Joshua Plaut welcomed the Clintons to the service and praised the president for trying to bring peace to Israel and its enemies.

"You will go down in Jewish history books as a man who ushered in an era of peace," Plaut said. He also said the service marked what may be the first time a sitting US president attended a Rosh Hashana service.

At Plaut's invitation, Clinton spoke briefly, saying his administration's efforts in the Mideast are in many ways "the most rewarding thing I've had a chance to do as president.

"And I assure you, we are laboring in the vineyards with Syria and Lebanon," to convince them to join the peace process, Clinton said. "L'shana tova," he added.

Plaut presented Clinton with readings from the Torah, and a small 100-year-old silver pointer. With Clinton standing at his side, Plaut also blew the shofar.

The invitation to Clinton was extended by Plaut through Alan Dershowitz, the Harvard professor who has a summer home on Martha's Vineyard.

The congregation usually meets in a local Jewish community center, but Monday's service was held in Edgartown's Old Whaling Church because of its large sizer.

The president is a Southern Baptist Christian who often attends a Methodist church in Washington with Mrs. Clinton.

'Shark cartilage is no help against cancer'

JUDY SIEGEL

POWDER made from shark cartilage – being sold here as a "protective" or "therapeutic" pill – has not been shown to be effective in cancer patients, the Israel Cancer Association stated this week.

A shark's skeleton is composed entirely of cartilage rather than bones, and cancer is very uncommon among this type of fish. A recent theory holds that shark cartilage may contain a substance that prevents the growth of blood vessels, since tumors are able to grow only by excreting a substance that encourages the creation of new blood vessels supplying the cancerous tissue with food.

However, according to the association, research on shark cartilage has not found any such substance. Although there was "only one study that showed that shark-cartilage powder prevented the production of blood vessels in a rabbit's eye, there has been absolutely no evidence in the professional literature that shark cartilage helps cancer patients," the association said.

A study in Cuba claimed to show improvement in three out of 29 patients and another in New Jersey indicated improvement in four out of 20, but the National Cancer Institute checked the studies and could not successfully replicate the findings.

The association stated that the active ingredient in the powder is composed of a "large molecule that can't be absorbed when taken orally or by suppository," thus taking the powder either way has been proven "ineffective." The Israel Association of Oncologists recommends not taking shark-cartilage pills unless and until effectiveness is proven.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man killed in fall from cliff

A 21-year-old man was killed Tuesday near quarries in Nahal Sorek after falling off a cliff while rappeling.

The man, who was with four friends, had his back to the cliff and was preparing to descend when he suddenly slipped and fell 40 meters. An air force helicopter brought him to Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, where he later died of his injuries. *Itim*

Four receive organs body of boy, 14

Four transplant operations were being carried out last night after the family of a 14-year-old boy who committed suicide donated his heart, liver and lungs.

The organs were rushed from Soroka Hospital, where the boy died, to Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem and to Beilinson Hospital.

The heart was received by a 48-year-old man, who is married and the father of two. One lung went to a 47-year-old Haifa woman, married with one child, who suffered from a severe respiratory disease.

The other lung went to a Beduin from a tribe near Beersheba. The 27-year-old bachelor suffered from an infectious respiratory disease. The liver was given to a patient at Beilinson. No further details were available.

B-G Airport handles pre-holiday rush

Thousands of travelers were processed relatively smoothly in the two days preceding Rosh Hashana, even though some 200 planes landed and took off during that period.

"We've seen more crowded days," said one airport worker.

The airport staff had been beefed up to handle the load. All the passport control stands were manned, though waits of up to half an hour were reported during periods following the landing of two or more jets at once.

Heavy crowds of outgoing tourists were reported at the duty-free shops.

Haredim were heavily represented going in both directions. Hundreds were traveling to Uman in Ukraine, to visit the tomb of Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav. *Itim*

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the jack of spades, seven of hearts, king of diamonds, and 10 of clubs.

MK, police injured in Beduin riot over school principal

AMIR ROZENBLIT

FIFTEEN people, including MK Taleb a-Sanaa and two police officers, were hurt yesterday in Hura, north of Arad, during a clash between Beduin clans over who should be principal of the local elementary school.

A-Sanaa, of the Democratic Arab Party, was hit in the face and had his glasses broken while trying to separate those involved in the fighting. Supt. Kaid Assam, commander of the Rahat police, was also among those hurt in the brawl, which centered on whether or not Yussuf Abu Aideh should continue as principal of the Hura elementary school.

Members of the Al-Sayad clan objected to his continuing in the post, and told Education Ministry officials they would block the opening of the school year at the facility if Abu Aideh remained on the job. However, Education Ministry officials fully backed Abu Aideh, saying he was a "good principal."

Early Tuesday morning parents burned tires near the school. Yesterday, when classes were due to begin, Al-Sayad clan parents sent their children home, and a clash broke out at around 10 a.m. between Al-Sayad and Al-Asem family members. Those involved used knives, hatchets and pickaxes in the fight, and also threw stones at each other, while others exchanged punches.

Police arrived at the scene led by Assam, who tried to shield Abu Aideh from the crowd but suffered a chest wound when he was hit by a thrown rock. He was treated at Soroka Hospital in Beersheba before returning to the scene of the fighting.

Police reinforcements were called in to quell the disturbances, during which Supt. Alex Fogelman was also hurt. Police were ordered to use a limited amount of tear gas to quell the disturbances, which finally ended at around 1:30 p.m. Seven of those involved in the fighting were arrested. Senior police officers later held consultations with Beduin leaders in Hura to calm things down.

Ex El Al chairman Ben-Ari dies at 73

MORDECHAI Ben-Ari, the former chairman and managing director at El Al and an acknowledged expert in the field of civil aviation, was buried Monday in the Kiryat Shaul Cemetery. He died Sunday at the age of 73.

Ben-Ari became managing director of the airline in 1967, and chairman in 1977. When airline hijackings and terror attacks began to spread in 1968, he oversaw the implementation of the strict security measures that gave El Al the reputation of being the world's safest air carrier.

El Al purchased its first jumbo jet during his tenure. With the introduction of the large planes, he worked to expand tourism between Israel and the US.

He left El Al in 1979 and opened an airplane leasing and equipment company. (Itim)

Israeli vacationers canceling reservations in Turkey

HAIM SHAPIRO

SEVERAL hotels in the Antalya region of Turkey have been hard hit by Israeli cancellations, according to the manager of one of the major hotels in the area.

Edmond Pinczowski, general manager of the Sheraton Voyager Hotel, said that hotels which were especially hard-hit had been booked up to 85 percent by Israeli guests.

Pinczowski said the cancellations were made after reports of over-booking and reports of Israelis allegedly shunted off in favor of Germans or Italians.

He regarded these reports as unfortunate inasmuch as Israeli vacationers are very well regarded in the area.

Pinczowski, who was manager of the Jerusalem Sheraton Plaza in 1982, said that tour operators in Antalya has seen Israel as an emerging market at a time when most Europeans were ambivalent about going to Turkey.

As Israel became deluged with inexpensive package deals, he said, traffic developed into a flood which became uncontrollable.

One indication of the extent of Israeli tourism in the region is that the only scheduled flights to the local airport are from Ben-Gurion Airport, although there are charter flights from Europe.

Pinczowski said the competition had been so fierce that many Turkish organizers had sold packages at no profit, hoping to make something on local tours after the visitors arrive.

Detectives raid acid party on eve of Rosh Hashana

RAINE MARCUS

TEL AVIV narcotics squad detectives got the jump on some local youths trying to give new meaning to the term High Holy Days early Tuesday morning, arresting 16 people at an acid party near the Reading power station.

Around 2,000 young people from all over the country bought tickets at NIS 45 each to a New Year's open air acid party held at midnight Monday near the Reading power station.

But guests were joined by undercover detectives, who gathered incriminating evidence against drug dealers and users. At around 4 a.m., police arrested sellers allegedly dealing quantities of marijuana and LSD.

"Only about 20 percent of party goers actually used drugs at these events, and our aim is to stop the dealers who are ruining young peoples' lives," said narcotics squad head Chief Supt. Menahem Frank.

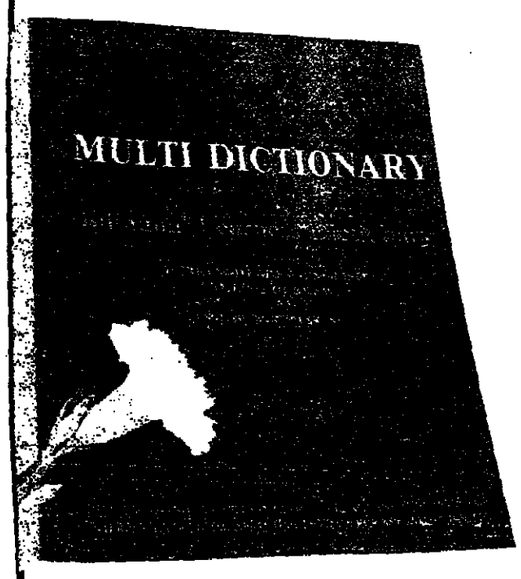
"We have also summoned the organizers for questioning, even though they were not involved in selling drugs."

Two 16-year-olds from Ramle, who allegedly sold marijuana and LSD, were among those arrested. Small quantities of drugs were confiscated, and by 7 a.m. police had closed down the party.

After questioning, most suspects, including the juveniles, were released on bail.

"We aim to continue raids on every acid party held in the city," said Frank. "Young people still do not realize the danger in using these drugs, which can endanger lives, especially if the youngsters drive home afterwards."

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